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APS Chapter 1189-119261



Southeast Federation
of Stamp Clubs

Manhattan Project National Historical Park – this Month!

Our nation's newest national park will become official on November 10, with signings in Washington, DC. A distinctive feature of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park is its locations – Hanford, Washington; Los Alamos, New Mexico; and right here in our own neighborhood at Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

Oak Ridge is sponsoring two celebrations on November 12, and the public is invited to both. A community celebration will take place in the auditorium at Oak Ridge High School at 2:00 pm, and the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring an event at Jackson Square at 4:00 pm. Oak Ridge City Manager Mark Watson hopes to have a community photo taken to re-create the photo by Ed Westcott, taken at the end of World War II.



Find out more about the celebration at <http://www.oakridgetn.gov>. Will there be a cachet to commemorate this event? Remember, KnoxPex 2016 will celebrate the centennial of the National Park Service.

Tom Broadhead

President's Column

The October auction was quite a success. There were only a few unsold items, but all in all it appeared things went well. So members now have money to spend on stamps that our committee has been putting in order for sale. I take my hat off to all those who have stepped up to help with this job. It is time consuming beyond imagination, and I know that we all appreciate it.

Last month I told you about Russia. What I did not say is that I purchased two books of stamps, some of them mint, some of them used. They are quite interesting. I bought these books from two gentlemen who were selling outside the Hermitage. It was an interesting way



to acquire stamps. I purchased a book of stamps in Viet Nam in a similar way, but that was in a small, musty shop.

When you travel, it is somewhat hard to find post offices, and I imagine that visitors to the US feel the same way. We do not put them in outstanding places with huge signs advertising what they are. I hope to have new experiences by the time we next meet as I will (hopefully over jet lag) have just returned from Israel.

Remember that the December meeting is at Miss Olivia's Table in Maryville. The cost is \$18, and KPS members will get \$10 to apply to their meal. Family and guests will pay the full price) We will again be having our gift swap, \$5-\$10 philatelic themed, but of course we all know a bottle of wine helps the long hours spent bent over our albums.

Also remember that the KnoxPex 2016 theme is National Parks Centennial and **Bob Smith** and his committee can always use your help!

Barbara Stevenson

Knoxville Philatelic Society Meeting – October 6, 2015

The Knoxville Philatelic Society met at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 for the regular monthly meeting. There were 30 members in attendance. There was no business meeting, and the program was the annual members' live auction. Treasurer Thomas Lane reports that 12 members submitted 95 lots. Twenty-three buyers bid a total of \$693.47 for 59 lots that sold, and there were a few post-auction private sales of unsold lots. Thanks go to Jim Pettway for photos of the evening event.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Broadhead, acting secretary



Four tables of auction lots, including stamps, covers, and literature attracted the attention of eager bidders.

The Knoxville Philatelic Society meets at 7:00 pm on the 1st and 5th Tuesdays of each month at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church at 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919.

Annual dues are \$15.00.

KPS Officers:

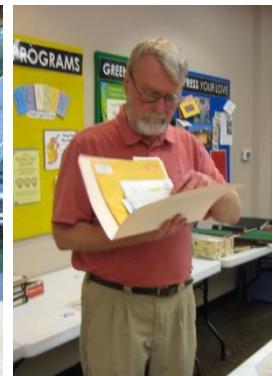
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APS Representative Jim Pettway
& KPS communications jbpettway@comcast.net

Requests for information and submissions of articles and short notes of philatelic interest for the newsletter may be directed to Tom Broadhead, KPS, P.O. Box 50422, Knoxville, TN 37950-0422 – or by e-mail to tomwb50@aol.com.



Bidders held their cards high as 95 lots were covered in a little more than one hour.



Tom Broadhead and **Bruce Roberts** (at left) were the auctioneers, and **Dan Hubbard** (right) managed the post-sale lots.

Upcoming Events

If you have a program to give at a KPS meeting, let vice president and program chair, **Dave Anderson**, know.

November 3 – KPS monthly meeting – program TBA
November 21 – KPS Saturday meeting – Powell Presbyterian Church, 2910 W. Emory Road, Powell

December 1 – KPS annual Holiday Dinner – at Miss Olivia's Table, 1108 W. Broadway, Maryville, TN 37801. Program – annual gift exchange.

December 29 – remember – no 5th Tuesday meeting.
See you in the new year!

Stamp of the Month



This month's stamp is a 18 agirot stamp of Israel showing the coat of arms of Ramla, a city in central Israel (Scott 389A). It was issued in 1970 as part of a series showing coats of arms of Israeli cities. These stamps are a gift from Pat Goebel.

America's Most Popular Postage Stamps

By Charlie Wade

A question most philatelists get: What are the favorite stamps in your collection? Ask this question to anyone and you will get a variety of answers and opinions all based on personal preference. But what do philatelic "experts" think?

Such an inquiry was made to dozens of respected collectors, dealers, historians, curators, designers, and other philatelists specializing in US stamps. As can be imagined, this exercise resulted in a very spirited and passionate discussion. In 2008 the results were published in a book, *100 Greatest American Stamps* by Janet Klug (columnist and former APS president) and Donald Sundman (owner of Mystic Stamp Company). Following is an overview of the top American stamps according to the panel of experts.

The Number One and Two voted stamps also happen to be the first US postage issued in 1847. Two national icons grace these first stamps: Benjamin Franklin on the 5c (Scott 1, below left) and George Washington (Scott 2 below right) on the 10c. Franklin very nearly lost out to Andrew Jackson for the honor of being on the first US stamp. The Postmaster General had originally proposed President Jackson for the 5c issue but the choice was ultimately changed to Franklin. This established a pattern of Franklin and Washington appearing on regular-issue postage stamps that went unbroken until almost 1870, when other subjects more frequently replaced these Founding Fathers as stamp subjects.



Coming in at Number Three is the 24c Jenny Invert, (Scott C3a) known by collectors and non-collectors as one of the world's most-recognized stamps. In printing in 1918, one sheet of 100 of a new bi-colored airmail stamp with an inverted center slipped by



inspectors and was sold to the public. In addition to their rarity, many remarkable stories add to the rich lore of the legendary "upside-down airplane" stamp.

To commemorate the 400th anniversary of Columbus's discovery of America, the US Postal Service issued a 16 stamp set that illustrates Columbus's voyage to the New World. This set was the first commemorative stamps issued and, as such, were not without critics. Businesses complained about the large size and collectors lamented the high cost to purchase an entire set. The \$5



black Columbian (Scott 245), which is ranked Number Four in the survey, features a cameo portrait of Columbus within a coin-like circle.

In 1869 the U. S. Post Office Department launched a new series of regular-issue stamps, but these stamps came under attack for their radically difference appearance. They were square, rather than rectangular, and some denominations were printed in two colors, a first for the United States. Only three of the stamps bore portraits, which had been the mainstay of US stamps for 18 years. The remaining seven were pictorial: different and therefore unpopular. Two of this set were ranked in the "Top Ten" survey: the 90c carmine and black Abraham Lincoln (Scott 132, below left) at Number Five and the red and blue 30c Shield, Eagle, and Flag (Scott 131, below right) which was rated as Number Seven.



Held in Omaha, Nebraska in 1898, the Trans-Mississippi Exposition showcased social, economic and
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This month's KPS Meeting – Tuesday, November 3

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industrial resources of the American West. The exposition's commemorative series contributed two stamps to this most popular listing. The \$1 "Western Cattle in Storm" stamp (Scott 292 – Number Six) is widely considered to be one of beautiful ever issued.



The \$2 denomination (Scott 293) pictures the Eads Bridge and is Number Eight in this ranking. An engineering marvel of its time, the bridge was, at construction, the longest arch bridge in the world. Not only do these stamps have visual appeal they are also scarce. After only four months the unsold Trans-Mississippi stamps were destroyed. With only about 57,000 of each of these two stamps printed (and many ultimately destroyed) the stamps are very scarce today.



The highest denomination, but also the most common, on the list is the \$5 "America" (Scott 573) of the 1922 definitive series which was voted Number Nine. It is the only 20th century stamp in the Top 10. The "America" is especially dramatic in shades of carmine and blue.



This stamp is based on the *Statue of Freedom*, which stands atop the U.S. Capitol. The *Statue of Freedom* is also featured on the 1895 1c Newspaper and Periodical stamp (Scott PR102).

Aside from the Inverted Jenny, the most costly stamp for collectors to acquire is probably the 90c blue Washington issue of 1860 (Scott 39). Ranked Number Ten in this survey, only 25,000 of this stamp were printed. This denomination satisfied the rate of 20c per half ounce for letters and packages sent more than 2,500 miles to foreign

countries. When issued just prior to the start of the Civil War it was the highest denomination US stamp to date. This denomination was the equivalent of about \$150 today so demand was projected to be low and relatively few were printed. Due to their short period of use, genuine used copies of the stamp are much rarer than those in mint condition.

Specializing in US postage, I have been fortunate enough to have acquired nine of these "Top Ten" for my collection. As can well be expected, the missing item is the "Inverted Jenny." These nine were displayed at KnoxPex a few years ago in my exhibit "United States 19th and Early 20th Century Postage Issues: The Crown Jewels of a US Collection."

Are these my favorite stamps? Not necessarily; these are the tops according to a panel of "experts." Favorite stamps are a matter of personal preference not expert opinions. What would you consider to be the favorite stamps or covers in your collection?

What Did You Acquire During Stamp Collecting Month?

Next month's KPS News will feature pictures and stories of your new collecting acquisitions. Send me a scanned image (jpeg preferred) and 2-3 sentences – tomwb50@aol.com. Share your collecting interests with the rest of us!