Minutes of February Meeting

President Mike Ezell was out sick and Jim Hogue presided over the meeting in his place.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Carl Anderson gave the treasurer’s report stating that he had paid $105 to the Southeast Federation for 3 years worth of dues, leaving a balance of $631. Randy gave the secretary’s report and both were accepted.

There was no old business. New business included a survey being created by Gene for the club members based on one he had found and any suggestions for questions to be added. He is going to put it together and send it out soon. Some of the items were: asking for suggestions for events and topics, ways to attract new members and how to make the club better.

Jim introduced Don Knight, who joined the club at the previous meeting, and mentioned the need for presenters for programs for the rest of the year and volunteers for a possible one-page exhibit night.

The meeting broke for refreshments followed by a presentation by Jim on censorship markings in Australia during the second World War.

Randy Patterson, Secretary

SE REGION EVENTS

March 2, 2019 KnoxPEx 2019
Knoxville Philatelic Society, Holiday Inn Knoxville-Cedar Bluff, 9134 Executive Park Dr., Knoxville, Tennessee 37923, Tom Broadhead, broadhea@utk.edu 865-974-1151, http://www.knoxstamps.com

March 9-10, 2019 Nashville Stamp & Postcard Show
Gallatin Civic Center, 210 Albert Gallatin Ave, Gallatin, TN 37066, Tom Tribke, show@nashvillephilatelic.org, 615-833-5161, http://www.nashvillephilatelic.org
WELCOME: NEW MEMBER
Don Knight

Don is new to the area, moved to Chickamauga, Ga. area three years ago from Arizona. Now living with son John and daughter-in-law Karen and two grandchildren. Delivered magazines & books and other printed matter, for Anderson News Co. Retired in 2009. Started collecting stamps in 2006, but has not been very active with collecting. Joined the stamp club in order to learn more about collecting and how to find grills, watermarks, and the proper way to identify perforations. Has found the people at the Chattanooga stamp club to be very welcoming and friendly. Looks forward to enjoying many meetings and forming new friendships.

(Other new members will be featured in later issues.)

Chattanooga Stamp Club Survey

The attached survey is submitted for your input into the club’s activities. We want the input from every club member, both active and inactive. This is in an effort to improve the club and make it more beneficial and enjoyable for all.

Please complete the form whatever your interest in the club is and return it at the March meeting or mail it to the secretary, Randy Patterson, 1903 Red Fox Lane, Hixson, TN 37343 at your earliest convenience.

Also include any comments and your collecting interests on the back of the sheet.

THANK YOU.

FEBRUARY U.S.  2019 STAMPS

Cactus Flowers
February 15

Alabama Statehood
February 23

Chapter Programs

See a program you would like to see? Let a club officer know about it and the club may be able to purchase it for an upcoming meeting presentation. 44 DVDs are available for $7 each at the APS DVD shop. Some other programs are available to be downloaded from the web. Look here for titles and descriptions: https://classic.stamps.org/DVD-Shop

TOPICAL STAMP COLLECTING

The different approaches a stamp collector can take in the hobby are virtually endless.

With stamps and covers being used in and issued by countries across the globe for more than 150 years, there are a wealth of stamp topics a collector can seek to master, and a vast pool of different postal administrations that might have issues that pertain to those topics.

Being creative in your approach can provide topical ideas, but you can also trust some themes that have already proved challenging and enjoyable.

Start with any stamp subject that grabs your attention. Topical stamp collections may be built around various themes like sports, animals, music, people, or flowers.

Stamps aren’t the only philatelic items collectors can look for to tell the story of their favorite topic. Postal stationery, stamped envelopes, and postmarks can add to any collection.

USPS Statement on Stamp Collecting

Stamp collecting can be a lifetime hobby. It’s fun and educational for all ages and it’s easy to start without a big investment. The study of stamps and postal materials is called philately and collectors are sometimes called philatelists.

Learn more about how to collect stamps, philatelic terms, and stamp issues from the United States Postal Service®.

How do I start collecting stamps?
You can start by saving stamps from letters, packages, and postcards. Many beginning collectors choose a favorite subject like art, history, sports, transportation, or animals as the theme of their collection. You can have a great time on a limited budget with just a few inexpensive accessories such as an album and stamp hinges.

There are many types of stamps—such as sheets, booklets, coils, and stamp hinged ("lick-and-stick") or self-adhesive ("no-lick, peel-and-stick").
The Advancement of First Day Cover collecting

A Short Course on First Day Covers

What is a First Day Cover?

A First Day Cover (FDC) is an envelope or card bearing a stamp which is cancelled on the day the stamp is initially placed on sale by the postal authorities. A FDC with the Snowy Egret stamp (A) is shown with a New York, NY, First Day of Issue cancel (B) and a cachet (C), pronounced *ka-shay*, which compliments or tells us something about the stamp.

Where Are Stamps First Sold?

Although most U.S. stamps are released nationwide on the first day, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) will designate a single city as the "official" first day city. (Sometimes multiple cities are designated as “official.”) The location is usually appropriate to the subject of the stamp, and will be the only place where the “First Day of Issue” postmark is used. The 2003 Korean War Memorial stamp on the above FDC was released in Washington, DC -- the city where the Memorial is located.

When Are FDCs Prepared?

A specific day is selected for release of the new stamp, one which may be significant to the subject -- such as the Louisiana Purchase stamp issued on the 200th anniversary of the event.

How Are Stamps First Released?

Generally a First Day Of Issue (FDOI) ceremony is sponsored by the Postal Service or an organization associated with the new stamp. It is a colorful and entertaining ceremony which enables collectors to attend to prepare special souvenirs. Programs such as the Holiday Stamps folder shown above are usually distributed free of charge.

What is the Significance of the Cachet?

The cachet enhances the cover by complementing the stamp and can be attractive, educational, humorous, and other things. There are many different cachets for each new stamp -- such as two National World War II Memorial types shown. The choice adds an exciting dimension to the hobby.

First Day Cover Collecting Is...

a hands-on hobby, unlike stamp collecting, where the FDC collector actively participates. Collectors may make their own covers or collect covers in many dozens of different ways -- the result is a personal involvement that is extremely gratifying.