



Postmark Atlanta
Atlanta Stamp Collector's Club



Affiliate club #0357-031583
July 2021 Newsletter

We are holding "virtual" Atlanta Stamp Collectors Club meeting the first and third Tuesday hosted by member Lloyd Nutter. Lloyd sends out a Zoom invitation a couple days before the meeting. If you do not get an invitation for the meetings, please contact Lloyd to make sure he adds you to his list. Emailing him: trains56@charter.net. Also, if you need to test how Zoom works, Lloyd will be glad to give you a test.

We are researching meeting locations but our prior location Java Vino is not yet open evenings.

Button Gwinnett Stamp Club is starting in person meetings on third Wednesdays. Their church location does require masks on all attendees. If you plan to attend, please contact club president Mack Will at 770-381-5956 so he knows who all is planning to attend.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 6 7:00 pm Atlanta Stamp Collectors meeting on Zoom. Member show and tell.

July 20 7:00 pm Atlanta Stamp Collectors meeting on Zoom. Presentation on "Great White Fleet visits New Zealand in August 1908" by Scott Holmberg.

July 21 7:00 pm Button-Gwinnett Stamp Club in person meeting. Auction starts at 7:30. Mountain Park United Methodist Church, 1405 Rockbridge Rd, Stone Mountain, GA 30087. Meetings are in the Youth Fellowship Hall. If you are facing the church this is on the right side of the main building. (If you came to the stamp show that was on the opposite side of the church campus).


July 24 – 25 CHARPEX 2021 Charlotte Philatelic Society. Worrell Bldg, Central Piedmont Community College, 1228 Elizabeth Ave. Charlotte NC. Email: signup@charpex.info.
www.charpex.info

August 3 7:00 pm Atlanta Stamp Collectors meeting on Zoom. Member show and tell.

August 12 – 15 Great American Stamp Show. Combined show ATA, APS and AFDCS. Donald E. Stephens Convention Center – Hall G, 5555 N River Rd. Rosemont, IL (Chicago area). Details are subject to COVID in Illinois so we will keep checking on this. Dealers, Exhibits, Seminars. You can check at <https://stamps.org/great-american-stamp-show> for the latest updates.

August 17 7:00 pm Atlanta Stamp Collectors meeting on Zoom with presentation.

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	<p><u>ANNOUNCING</u> an ATA virtual one-page exhibition, in conjunction with the APS Great American Stamp Show: GASS (August 12 – 15 2021):</p> <p>The ATA is hosting “My One-Page Exhibit!”, and all the details can be found at the link below. The closing date to email your one-page exhibit to the ATA is July 15th 2021.</p> <p>https://americantopical.org/My-One-Page-Exhibit</p> <p><u>NOTE:</u> This will not be a judged exhibition, or one where viewers can vote on a most favorite. It’s simply an opportunity to get your philatelic gems and research out into the public view, and participate at GASS.</p> <p>Exhibit for FREE. Create a one-page exhibit and join the FUN.</p>
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First Saturday of every month there is in person Stamp Trading at home of Don Laberteaux, 5008 Brandlwood Ct., Lilburn, GA from 9 – 11 a.m. Coffee, talking and stamps. Call Don at 770-381-7114 for details.

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First-Day-of-Issue Locations and Dates Announced for Upcoming 2021 Stamps

Release Dates, First-Day-of-Issue Locations Announced for Upcoming 2021 Stamps

Name of Stamp	Release, Ceremony Date	City	State
Tap Dance	July 10	New York	NY
Western Wear*	July 23	Abilene	TX
Ursula K. Le Guin 3 ounce	July 27	Portland	OR
Raven Story	July 30	Juneau	AK
Mid-Atlantic Lighthouses	Aug. 6	Highlands	NJ
Missouri Statehood	Aug. 10	Jefferson City	MO
Backyard Games	Aug. 12	Rosemont	IL
Happy Birthday*	Sept. 9	Toast	NC
Message Monsters	Sept. 24	Topeka	KS
Day of the Dead	Sept. 30	El Paso	TX
A Visit From St. Nick	Oct. 7	Santa Claus	IN
Otters in Snow*	Oct. 12	Otter	MT

* No ceremony

Local COVID-19 restrictions may require virtual first-day-of-issue ceremonies or no ceremony at all.

Virtual events will be posted on the Postal Service's Facebook and Twitter pages. Additional information will be provided later.

Allen Johnson with the Button Gwinnett Stamp Club has created a Facebook Group for their club. Contact him to get invited to the group to see their process of buying and selling stamps. Ajrj1957@yahoo.com is his email.

Smallest and Largest Postage Stamps

By Steve Swain

When I tell someone I am a stamp collector, invariably they ask, “What is the most valuable stamp in your collection?” That is typically followed by, “What is the oldest stamp in your collection?” Of course, I can answer those questions. But no one has ever asked me, “What is the smallest and largest stamp in your collection?” I never really considered that, but it prompted me to do some research.

The smallest U.S. stamp to date is Scott #1734, the 1978 13-cent Indian Head Penny issue, shown below on the left. The 1-cent coin used as the stamp’s vignette was produced by the United States Bureau of Mint from 1859 to 1909. The 1978 stamp was an experiment to lower production costs and increase output. Measuring just .54" x .66", customers said it was too small and easily lost. The standard postage stamp dimensions are roughly 0.87 inches x 0.98 inches. This is the stamp size for the American flag Forever stamp. And, yes, I do have this stamp in my collection!



The largest U.S. stamp is the 1997 Mars Rover Sojourner souvenir sheet issue, Scott #3178, shown above on the right. It measures 3" x 1.5". NASA successfully landed the Mars Pathfinder spacecraft on Mars on July 4, 1997. Pathfinder launched a rover named Sojourner, which was the first rover to operate on another planet. Sojourner explored Mars for almost three months before communications with the rover failed in October of 1997. Unfortunately, I do not have this stamp in my collection.

As for non-U.S. stamps, the smallest is the 1863 Bolivar issue shown below on the left. (Bolivar was formed as one of the nine United States of Colombia after the civil war in 1860-1862.) The stamp is 8mm x 9.5mm in size, which is exceptionally small. A standard U.S. stamp is 22.10mm x 24.89mm. The stamp depicts the Coat of Arms of Bolivar, with stars traced around the Coat of Arms. The stamp exists in two versions - a version with 6 stars below, as shown here, and a version with 5 stars below. Both versions are rare, with the 5-star version carrying the highest catalogue value.



The largest stamp is the 1905-12 China Express letter issue, shown above on the right. Measuring 210mm x 65mm, it has a large dragon design, Type E 36, and is divided into four parts by serrated roulette. The borders of imperforate. I have neither the Bolivia nor the China stamp in my collection. As mentioned, the Bolivian stamp is quite rare.

My research revealed other “small” and “large” stamps. Take a few minutes and have some fun with internet research on such issues.

Arago change

If you have used the National Postal Museum site Arago to research stamps you will want to know that it has been replaced by “Search the Collection” at <http://postalmuseum.si.edu/search-the-collection>. This was necessary because the 14 year-old software was no longer supported.

If you have not visited the National Postal Museum, you should check out their YouTube site. There are links to lectures and videos of museum exhibits.

The National Postal Museum continues to engage with the public during the COVID closure online at their YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/SmithsonianNPM>

The museum is interested in what needs to be collected to document life under COVID much like they have items from the 1918 Flu Pandemic era. If you have ideas or items contact the Chief Curator, Daniel Piazza at piazza@si.edu.

If you order from Amazon (and who doesn't nowadays). The AmazonSmile program donates to charities if you order through smile.amazon.com or turn on AmazonSmile in the shopping app. I support American Topical Association Inc. and was recently notified that just this past quarter they have donated \$117.40 to ATA with various members who have added them as their supporting charity.

There are online Stamp Chat events sponsored by American Philatelic Society using Zoom that you can access information on at this link: <https://stamps.org/news/c/news/cat/local/post/aps-to-host-live-stamp-chats-on-zoom-beginning-monday-march-23>

There are Stamp Chats scheduled all through the end of 2021. There are replays of these chats available on YouTube. The variety of subjects now available is amazing. <https://www.youtube.com/user/AmericasStampClub> is the link to check out all the stored Chats.

If you are interested in writing for our newsletter or presenting to our club at one of our monthly meetings, please contact me at the email below or Scott Holmberg at sdholmberg1@gmail.com with your ideas.

LeA Coe, Secretary

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