As we emailed earlier, meetings are not being held until the public health danger is past.

Dear fellow Atlanta philatelists;

This coronavirus/COVID-19 epidemic is moving in ways that are hard to predict. We know that there are cases in Georgia, that people without symptoms ("silent carriers") can be circulating, and that people above the age of 60 are especially at risk of bad disease and death. True, a small gathering like our Club is probably not going to put anyone at danger, but we would all feel awful if one of us contracted this virus from another member.

Accordingly, and reluctantly, the officers of the Club-- LeA, Barbara, and I-- agree that it is best to suspend meetings until we all have a better idea of this epidemic. Ken Andreasen, special apologies to you as we know you had an excellent presentation on the Faroe Islands planned for this Tuesday; we look forward to hearing it at a later date.

Finally, I would be remiss as an infectious disease MD epidemiologist for over 40 years not to reinforce some basic guidelines: don't panic; wash your hands frequently; stay away from people who are coughing/obviously ill (well, duh!); if you get sick (yes, it might be just a cold) stay home!

I am getting a lot of questions from friends, but many of them can be answered. by going to cdc.gov. Briefly, no vaccine, no treatment, so please no magical thinking. We will get through this, and I think and hope that our rational behavior will mitigate what would be a disaster for earlier generations.

Yours in philately,

Scott
UPCOMING EVENTS

Stamp Trading at home of Don Laberteaux cancelled until further notice

HUNTSPEX scheduled for May 30-31 in Huntsville, AL has been cancelled.


Our club is a member of The American Philatelic Society. They are actively reaching out to all stamp collectors with online activities in this time of shelter in place.

The American Philatelist Online
To encourage members and collectors to learn more about the APS, we have lifted the members-only restrictions on accessing The American Philatelist online. Please feel free to share with your fellow collectors and encourage them to connect and learn more about all our great benefits. Please access The American Philatelist here.

If you are getting a print version of this newsletter, the web address is: www.stamps.org/the-american-philatelist

On May 4 at 7pm, APS will have another Town Hall Meeting with Executive Director Scott English. Have your questions ready. We’ll have plenty of room this time for anyone wanting to join the town hall. Look for meeting details soon on stamps.org

Also there will be online Stamp Chat events using Zoom that you can access information on at this link:


There are replays of these chats available on YouTube. Subjects have included Stamp Art, Use of Stamps in College Classrooms and The APRL. https://www.youtube.com/user/AmericasStampClub is the link to check out all the stored Chats.
The Best of our Nations Rivers

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act was passed in 1968, ensuring the preservation of waterways deemed “outstandingly remarkable” in terms of “scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural” or other values. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Forever® stamps celebrate 12 of these rivers with striking full-color photographs.

On the first row are California’s Merced River, famed as the main waterway flowing through Yosemite Valley; an Idaho segment of the Owyhee River, where seasonally verdant desert canyons are carved into volcanic rock; and Alaska’s Koyukuk River, which originates in the Brooks Range within the Arctic Circle.

The second row of stamps features the tree-lined Niobrara River of Nebraska, a haven for varied wildlife amid otherwise treeless prairie; the Snake River in Wyoming, with the Grand Tetons providing a spectacular backdrop; and the Flathead River, Montana, among America’s richest wildlife habitats and home to grizzly bears.

Row three includes the Missouri River, where the White Cliffs section in Montana remains virtually unchanged since Lewis and Clark’s 1805 explorations; the Skagit River in Washington State, which is among the most fertile salmon habitats and runs through a land of active volcanoes; and the Deschutes River, Oregon, punctuated by beautiful cascades over volcanic
rock formations.

On the final row are the glacier-fed Tlikakila River, Alaska, where moose, caribou, Dall sheep, bears, wolves, and sockeye salmon thrive; the Ontonagon River of Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, which runs northward into Lake Superior and is rich with native trout; and Pennsylvania’s Clarion River, which flows through lands that are home to some of the tallest old-growth forest in the Northeast.

The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System is by no means a cure-all for elements of modern civilization that compromise river quality. But it is an instrument through which Americans can aim for balance. We cherish the best of our rivers and the vital functions these special streams play as sources of clean water, habitats for native wildlife, and places of beauty and sanctuary.