



Volume 18 Issue 9
April 2020



Philately - is the study of stamps and postal history and other related items.

It also refers to the collecting, research, and enjoyment, of stamps and other philatelic products.

**WILKPEX
2020
CANCELED!!!**

Inside this issue:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Club News | 2 |
| Club contact info. | 2 |
| Meeting Dates | 2 |
| Stamp Club Members | 2 |
| Upcoming Stamp Shows | 3 |
| WILKPEX CANCELED! | 3 |
| Junior Corner – First Day Ceremonies | 4 |
| 50 Years Ago | 4 |

WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB NEWS

Wilkinsburg Stamp Club is a member of APS #12293

RED NOSES



Country; Austria
Issued; February 25, 2020
Making People Laugh even when times are difficult.
For over 25 years now the RED NOSES clown doctors have been bringing laughter where it is most needed and Austrian Post has honored this fabulous commitment with a RED NOSES special stamp; RED NOSES is an artistic organization bringing humor and laughter to people in need of joy, says the mission statement of this charitable organization. The

clown doctors visit children and young people in hospitals and in other special educational and therapeutic institutions as well as adults and senior citizens in care and rehabilitation centers. They provide psychological support to help people get well again and find renewed pleasure in life. The RED NOSES clown doctors are professional artists who have undergone special training. When they are ill, children are subject to all kind of stresses: anxiety, pain, separation from their parents, treatments; and a nosy, clumsy clown can become an important ally who has the sensitivity necessary not only to ensure that there is fun to be had, but also to distract patients and to help reduce anxiety levels. Adults also benefit from the healthcare clowns: clowns improve their mood, motivate people and provide a few lighter moments in an otherwise difficult situation. For senior citizens, visits from clowns provide variety and help raise their spirits.

Founded by Monika Culen and Giora Seeliger in 1994, after the

first visits from clown doctors to sick children it quickly became clear what positive effects these special "visits" can have. Since 2000 the clown doctors have also been visiting senior citizens in care facilities, and projects such as "Clowns on the Go", supporting people through therapy in rehabilitation clinics.

Since 2013 the RED NOSES have been working in crisis and catastrophe zones with "Emergency Smile". RED NOSES Clown doctors International was set up in 2003 and today has partner organizations in ten different countries. This makes the RED NOSES group the world's largest association of healthcare clowns.

Notable People on Stamps: Raoul Wallenberg



In the waning days of World War II (1939-45), Raoul Wallenberg (1912- c. 1947), a Swedish businessman-turned-diplomat based in Budapest, was responsible for the rescue of thousands—some estimates are as high as 100,000—of Hungarian Jews from

extermination by the Nazis. Wallenberg handed out protective passports and set up safe houses for Jews, among other life-saving measures. In January 1945, he was detained by Soviet forces for reasons unknown, somewhere outside of Budapest, and never heard from again. Years later, Soviet officials admitted to taking Wallenberg into custody, but stated he had died of a heart attack in a Moscow prison in 1947. In the ensuing decades, various sources claimed that Wallenberg was still alive and being held by the Russians. Many countries, including the US have produced postage stamps in his esteem.



Club News

**Churchill Borough building shut down due to Coronavirus*

We were privileged to have John Rose's daughter come to the meeting. The family has been going through his collection and has donated many items to the club. Many items were available for purchase at the meeting, and will be there again at the next meetings.

Summer Picnic August 1st, So save the date, and come and enjoy a nice day. It is the same grove as the one last year. Everyone is encouraged to bring a dish. Please sign up at a meeting or contact Danielle, if you plan to attend, and what you would like to bring. If you bring something that needs to be kept cold or

warm, bring it in coolers or warmer containers, grove does not have refrigeration and heat is a grill, that is used for the hamburgers and hot dogs. There is electricity available... so crock pots etc can be used for hot dishes...

There was a short discussion about the possibility of the show needing to be canceled because of the Coronavirus. It was felt that a refund from the hall would be possible and the dealers could be reimbursed for their tables, and the club loss would be minimum.

Everyone is encouraged to bring something for "show and tell" the second meeting of the month. *(Does not have to be stamp related)*

Due to the outbreak of the Coronavirus / Corono-19 the March 22nd meeting was canceled. Many Stamp Shows have been canceled, be sure to check before

traveling to make sure any show is still happening.

The following meetings have been canceled.
April 5th

**WILKPEX
(April 17 & 18 2020)
has been canceled !**

Souvenir Sheets and Cachets are still available, can be ordered online or Contact Gene Bujdos
E-mail gbujdos@yahoo.com

Wilksburg Stamp Club
C/o Gene Bujdos
Department W
P.O. Box 5649,
Pittsburgh, PA 15207.

WSC Meetings

ALL Visitors are welcome!
We meet the 2nd & 4th Sundays
No Holidays

Next meetings

**Canceled
due to
Coronavirus**

**April 5th- pre-show
April 27th -meeting**

**Check for next meeting date
Possibly May 24th?
If the building is again
available.**

*Summers Meetings
June thru August
2nd Sundays only*

Doors Open 12:30
Meeting starts at 2PM

Churchill Borough Building,
2300 William Penn Hwy
Churchill, PA 15235.
Free light lunch available

Stamp Club Members

As a stamp club member, you are among the most active philatelists in the world. Of the estimated 200 million stamp collectors, it is reported there are thousands of stamp collecting organizations around the world. The fun and interest in our hobby increases when we meet our fellow collectors who have similar interest in philately

Stamp collecting faces the problem with our youth not having the same interests we had when we were younger. We read books. We enjoy each other's company. Youth of today are content spending their time with various media entertainments, which helps with hand eye coordination, reaction time and ability to work with other players. Satisfaction comes quickly.

Hobbies tend to have little or no time in our middle years when we have family and work obligations.

Later in life as we age, our bodies often limit our hobbies.

Although we have these problems, it is said that the future of stamp collecting is bright. The

computers have opened up a whole new world of philately, allowing those unable to join a local club to become involved in internet clubs, and stay active in the hobby. Internet has also made it possible to acquire items from philatelic marketplaces throughout the world. It has also made it possible to readily access educational materials of interest, without the need to go to the local library, where information may be limited

It does not take much in terms of finances or time to get started in the hobby. One collects what he or she wants to collect, and how to collect it, no rules, how ever you do it, is the right way for you.

Philately is not dead or dying, it is changing. We can choose to change with it, or stay the same. It's all up to you, and what makes you happy.

Officers

President:

Andy Novotny
novoand@hotmail.com

Vice-President:

Laura Kaczynski
laurakac13@verizon.net

Treasurer /Secretary & Mailing Coordinator:

Danielle Weaver
dmm742000@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor & Web Tech:

Deb Foltyn
quest4moos@msn.com

From APS

Please Be Cautious

Many of our members are among the most vulnerable to infection and the effects of COVID-19. Please follow the advice of the Centers (CDC) to protect yourself and others:

- Clean your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Keep updated on community news and avoid large groups of people.
- Stay home if you're sick.
- Cover coughs and sneezes, but not with your hands.

You can get more information about prevention here.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fabout%2Fprevention.html

Up Coming Stamp Shows

Newsletter

Many Shows are canceling, so check before you go, to make sure the show you are planning to attend is still on.

Spring Stamp Expo

Cumberland Valley Philatelic

April 4, 2020 Bourse only
Eugene Clarke Center
235 S. Third Street
Chambersburg, PA 17201
Contact Eileen Bricker
Email: ygigi14@gmail.com
Phone: 717-709-1314

McKinley Stamp Club Show

*******CANCELED*******

Fairview Park Universal Coin, Currency & Stamp Show

April 5th 2020
American Legion Post # 42
22001 Brookpark Rd.
Fairview Park, OH 44126
Contact: John Cotleur
Phone: 440-864-7473
Hours: Sun 10-3

TUSCOPEX

April 18th, 2020
Tuscora Park Pavilion
Tuscora Ave N.W.
New Philadelphia, OH
Contact: Jim Shamel

Phone: 740-922-4619
Email: jim-helenshamel@hotmail.com
Hours: Sat 10-5
Auction at 4

WILKPEX

*******CANCELED*******

LANCOPEX

Apr 24th - 25th, 2020
Farm & Home Center of
Lancaster County
1383 Arcadia Road
Lancaster, PA 17601
Hours: Fri 10-5, Sat 10-4

Greenhills Classic Stamp & Coin

April 26th, 2020
American Legion
11100 Winton Road
Cincinnati, OH 45218
Contact: Xenia Coin
Phone: 937-376-2807
Hours: Sun 10-4

Langhorne Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show

April 26th, 2020
Sheraton Bucks County
400 Oxford Valley
Langhorne, PA 19047

Contact: Allen Brock
Phone: 305-852-7678
Hours: Sun 10-4

Fairview Park Universal Coin, Currency & Stamp Show

May 3rd 2020
American Legion Post # 42
22001 Brookpark Rd.
Fairview Park, OH 44126
Contact: John Cotleur
Phone: 440-864-7473
Hours: Sun 10-3

BUTLERPEX

May 8th - 9th 2020
Tanglewood Center
10 Austin Ave
Lyndora, PA 16045
Contact: Tom Sivak
Email: tomsstamps@zoominternet.net
Phone: 724-287-1931
Hours: Fri 10-4 Sat 10-4
Auction Sat. around 3:30

It's your newsletter!
Help Make it special

Original articles for the newsletter may be submitted by any of the membership to Deb Foltyn at a meeting or emailed to Quest4moos@msn.com
Or via regular mail:
Deb Foltyn
1023 Brintell Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15201-1637

What would you like to see in covered in the junior corner?

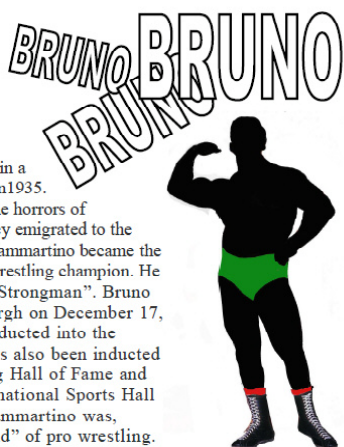
Many thanks to Maureen McKeever for stepping up to take over the newsletter, this change takes place in June.

Note articles submitted may be edited for content or to fit the Format.*

Club members get a free black and white hard copy of the newsletter.

Color copies available at a Meeting. *You must send a request before the meeting, so they can be printed special.*

WILKPEX 2020 - 70th Annual Show of the Wilkinsburg Stamp Club—CANCELED!



Bruno Sammartino was born in a mountainous region of Italy in 1935. He and his family survived the horrors of World War II, and in 1950 they emigrated to the USA settling in Pittsburgh. Sammartino became the longest reigning of any pro wrestling champion. He was known as the "Italian Strongman". Bruno began his career in Pittsburgh on December 17, 1959 and ended it being inducted into the WWE Hall of Fame. He has also been inducted into Professional Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum in 2002 and International Sports Hall of Fame in 2013. Bruno Sammartino was, indeed, "The Living Legend" of pro wrestling.

WILKPEX 2020 Pittsburgh, PA 15235-0552

WILKPEX 2020 has been canceled, due to unforeseen circumstances, stemming from the Coronavirus, and the closing of the hall.

The cachet and the cancel for the

show have been finalized.

Subject is Bruno Sammartino. Excellent work by Gene to pull this together for another year. Thanks Gene!

As usual the cachets and souve-

nir sheets will be available at the show.

It was decided to do a second Souvenir sheet to celebrate the 70th anniversary of WILKPEX. The design was submitted by John Harding and it spoofs the Pittsburgh sunken bus.

The "Woman in the Moon" Souvenir sheet, was approved and ready to go to print. Souvenir Sheets and Cachets are

still available, can be ordered online or Contact Gene Bujdos
E-mail gbjudos@yahoo.com

Wilkinsburg Stamp Club
C/o Gene Bujdos
Department W
P.O. Box 5649,
Pittsburgh, PA 15207.



Junior Corner – First Day Ceremony

Most U.S. commemorative and “special” issue stamps have events on the day that they go on sale. These are known as “First Day Ceremonies. Some of these are organized by U.S.P.S., others by people, ranging from postal people to interest groups. Some philatelists collect the programs, from these events, but there is other things you might like, if able to attend one of these events. Nearly all U.S. first-day ceremonies have free admission. Check ahead of time to see if pre-registration is necessary. In most cases, you don’t need to bring anything other than yourself. However, it is possible to come prepared. Here are some suggestions: Some form of payment to purchase the issued stamp, and other philatelic items. The U.S.

Postal Service also is likely to offer other “philatelic products” at the ceremonies. Your own Envelopes or cards with your own design to use as FDC: with your design is better, but cachets can be added later, if there isn’t time to prepare them in advance. A bag or briefcase to carry your collectibles: There may or may not be glassine envelopes available, those aren’t very protective. Something to put between the items postmarked, to avoid smearing the ink. Post-it notes work well. A good-quality pen for autographs: There may be an “autograph table” with the dignitaries from the ceremony. You may have to chase down some dignitaries, or you may see a celebrity not involved in the ceremony whose autograph you want

to obtain. Sharpie ink dries quickly and it will write on practically anything. A keen eye: Look for postmarks that won’t be offered by mail, such as the double-ringed red registry plug, which postal regulations state cannot be backdated. Watch the cancellation clerks at work; you may decide you want a particular clerk to handle your covers, or none at all. If you plan to obtain autographs after the ceremony, see where the autograph line will be and perhaps take a seat near where it starts. Keep an eye out for any items that might make a nice first-day collectible: A brochure for the attraction at which the ceremony is being held, for example. Also watch for programs left behind by non-collectors. Even if you only want one for your

collection, the extras may be traded or, in the case of multi-stamp issues, you may need more than one program to make a set. Add additional stamps and cancels or autographs to your first-day ceremony program to differentiate it from those that were not distributed at the event; that is, purchased from the USPS sales department. Get both the cancel and the Postmarks on your items. An Attention Span: It is amazing what you might learn at a first-day ceremony, if you look and listen. Edited from Original article by Lloyd A. de Vries

WE’RE ON THE WEB!
Wilkinsburgstampclub.com

WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB
Home of the Famous Satirical Souvenir Sheets

50 Years ago - Death of Charles Chickering (October 7, 1891 – April 29, 1970)

Charles Ransom Chickering was best known as the freelance artist who designed some 77 postage stamps for the U.S. Post Office while working at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Washington, DC. His career as a professional artist began while working as an illustrator for the U.S. Army recording and drawing medical illustrations of the wounded and dead during the WWI. He continued the practice in civilian life and became a noted artist-illustrator who worked for a number of prominent magazines, including *The Saturday Evening Post*, which were very popular during the pre-television era of the 1920s to 1940s. After the Second World War Chickering began working for the U.S. Post office designing U.S. Postage stamps, some of which became famous. Later in life he became a designer and illustrator for first day cover cachets that were also popular among stamp and postal history collectors. After the war Chickering started designing U.S. postage stamps when he began working for the

Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP), starting his career there on February 12, 1947. During Chickering’s 15-year career at the BEP he was credited for designing 66 stamp designs that were produced unaltered, into the final stamp design, such as the one used in the *Opening of Japan* commemorative issue of 1953, while 11 other designs were modified somewhat and incorporated into a stamp format. In addition to the 77 stamps he designed Chickering is also credited as modeler for 41 U.S. issues designed by other artists and jointly as modeler for eight more. While designing postage stamps with their frequent historical themes Chickering often spent much time researching and studying historical documents, letters, paintings, statues and photographs before creating the design for a postage stamp. Chickering designed dozens of stamp issues most of which employed historic themes for their

subjects. The Project Mercury stamp, issued on February 20, 1962, proved to be the most famous of Chickering’s stamps designs. It was initially produced in quantities of 100 million stamps but because it proved to be so popular the U.S. Post Office ordered the printing of an additional 100 million. The success of the space mission was still not known so the production of the stamp was done in secrecy. To assure that the production of this stamp remained confidential Chickering did most of his design work at home, while his fellow workers at the BEP were informed that he was on a vacation. The finished stamps were sent to Post offices across the country and were labeled ‘Top Secret’ where they finally were released to the public on February 20, 1962 at the exact hour Colonel John Glenn’s historic flight returned to Earth. Among his earlier productions is the Fort Bliss commemorative

issue of 1948, issued to honor the 100th anniversary of Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas. Overland mail In early 1957, the U.S. Post Office was under considerable pressure to mark the anniversary of the Butterfield’s overland mail lines with a stamp “honoring the centennial of the overland mail.” Chickering was chosen to design the stamp. Credo issues of 1960 co-designed stamps, these issues depict quotes made by various famous Americans such as Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln. They were designed by Frank P. Conley and illustrated by Charles Chickering.