



# 2021 U.S. PROGRAM UNDERWHELMING SO FAR

By Arthur P. von Reyn

An underwhelming variety of topical issues dominates the preliminary list of 2021 stamp issues announced by the U.S. Postal Service. The topics include Western Wear, Backyard Games, Espresso Drinks, Garden Beauty, Heritage Breeds of farm animals and Mid-Atlantic Lighthouse, the latter being the last in the long-running Lighthouse series. In his CBS Radio "The Stamp Collecting Report," philatelic writer

## RICK HOSLER: NEW CLUB SECRETARY

As a result of the election at our December 9, 2020, meeting, Rick Hosler, one of our newest members, will assume the duties of club secretary. He replaces Joe Baker, who has served in that capacity for the past four years.

A native of Bethlehem, PA, Hosler graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree from Penn State and MS from George Washington University. He worked for the Central Intel-

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Rick Hosler  
University. He worked for the Central Intel-

Lloyd de Vries termed the stamp program "...an uninspiring bunch of pop culture and playing to interest groups."

A stamp showcasing a visual riddle, and four Message Monster stamps with "dozens of self-adhesive accessories" are among what a USPS press release termed "fun issuances."

Only two of the 19 announced issues, commemorating Missouri statehood and Japanese Americans who fought in World War II, appear to have any historical significance. Chien-Shiung Wu, an influential American nuclear physicist, gets a stamp, as does the Black Heritage honoree, playwright August Wilson.

Stamps designed to appeal to ethnic and racial groups include a "Day of the Dead" quartet for Latinos, a "Raven Story" single

for native Native Americans, and the usual Lunar New Year for Asian Americans.

Stamps related to the anticipated January 24 rate increase are a Colorado Hair-streak butterfly single for the non-machine-able rate, a Brush

So far, there is no mention of a 2021 stamp feting the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Postal Service. This is the 1971 debut issue.

Rabbit single for the additional ounce rate and a Barns quartet for postcards. To date, there's been no announcement about a stamp for the proposed \$7.95 priority mail

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## TSDA SEEKING NEW BOURSE LOCATION

By Arthur P. von Reyn

The Texas Stamp Dealers Association is seeking a new home for its bourses after learning that the current location, the Richardson Civic Center (RCC), would not be available during the coming year.

"Because of social distancing needs and to assure that all vital employees are as safe as possible, it has been determined that no outside activities will be held at

RCC in 2021 and possibly forever," TSDA Dallas Bourse Chairman Tom Cunningham was told. "It also includes all events previously held in the Grand Ballroom and other meeting rooms."

The year 2020 would have been TSDA's 14th year at RCC had all the bourses not been canceled due to Covid-19. "Better hotels are reluctant to commit for four weekend dates in advance because they might miss wedding receptions that would have a food and bar tab of \$10,000 or more," Cunningham explained.

"I shall explore all alternatives and hope to be able to announce an alternative venue that we can afford soon," Cunningham continued. "I'm willing to consider any place north of the Trinity River and not further north than McKinney. The area must be safe and have adequate parking."

Suggestions as to reasonably priced locations meeting the above criteria would be appreciated. Cunningham can be contacted at [cunninghamstamps@aol.com](mailto:cunninghamstamps@aol.com).

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Due to the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, all DPCPS meetings at the Edgemere Retirement Community have been canceled until further notice. Meetings will be held instead on the internet. In the event meetings at the Edgemere or somewhere else resume before the March-April edition of *Stamp and Tongs*, members will receive either an email or postcard notice. Regular DPCPS meetings are called to order at 7:30 p.m., but most members arrive by 7:00 p.m. for socializing and trading.

- January 6** **DPCPS BOARD OF DIRECTORS INTERNET MEETING.** Call to order 7:00 p.m.
- January 13** **DPCPS INTERNET MEETING,** Program: *Overview of Club Exhibit at Mid-Cities Stamp Expo*, presented by Paul Witthoeft.
- January 27** **DPCPS INTERNET MEETING,** Program: Quarterly Auction.
- February 10** **DPCPS INTERNET MEETING,** Program: *Dead Countries of Asia*, presented by Stan Bartnikowski.
- February 24** **DPCPS INTERNET MEETING,** Program: *Philatelic Subjects Related to the Letter N*, presented by various members.
- November 12-13** **MID-CITIES STAMP CLUB EXPO,** Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 Main St., Grapevine, TX 76051. (Friday 10-5, Saturday 9-4). <http://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com/index.htm>
- To Be Determined** **TSDA DALLAS** - The Texas Stamp Dealers Association holds four bourses annually. A search is underway for a new location. Check the DPCPS or the TSDA websites for updated information.

## STAMP & TONGS

Newsletter of the Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society

Arthur von Reyn, Editor ([apvr@msn.com](mailto:apvr@msn.com))

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### 2021 DPCPS OFFICERS

President – Stan Bartnikowski ([stan.bartnikowski@gmail.com](mailto:stan.bartnikowski@gmail.com))

Vice-President – Bill Laupus ([walsr4005@juno.com](mailto:walsr4005@juno.com))

Secretary – Rick Hosler ([rhosler44@gmail.com](mailto:rhosler44@gmail.com))

Treasurer – Rod Gabel ([gabelassoc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gabelassoc@sbcglobal.net))

Past President – Geoff Owens

### DPCPS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Baker • Stuart Barzune • Ben Schkolne

Membership in the Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society is available to all persons of good character who are interested in philately. Dues are \$12 per year (higher for mailed newsletters). For more information, contact: (972) 956-6840 or: [apvr@msn.com](mailto:apvr@msn.com). For a membership application, write to: Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society, c/o Rick Hosler, 4601 S. Versailles Ave., Dallas, TX 75209-6017.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY STAN BARTNIKOWSKI



I would like to wish you all and your families the blessings of a Happy Hanukkah and a Merry Christmas!

I extend a warm welcome to our new club secretary and membership committee, Rick Hosler. Thank you, Joe Baker, for years of service as club

secretary, and welcome to your new role on the board. Thank you also to all the officers, board members and committee chairmen for their efforts!

I look forward to the year 2021; hopefully, the pandemic will be behind us and we will be able to meet in person sometime next year.

In my study of the joint issues of Poland, I have come across of very valuable book, *Catalogue des Emissions Conjointes (Catalog of Joint Issues)* by Richard Zimmermann. I am borrowing the 1997 version from the American Philatelic Research Library—the 2006 edition is listed in their catalog, but missing from their shelves. While it is in French, the introduction is also translated into English and German. One of the indexes provides references to the countries in alphabetical order, albeit by their French name. There are illustrations of many of the stamps, but in black and white. Zimmermann also maintains a website of joint issues around the world (<http://philarz.net/index.htm>), beginning in 1998, and in color.

I continue to encourage each of you to submit an item for the door prize – of approximately \$10 retail value. You can send me an image ([stan.bartnikowski@gmail.com](mailto:stan.bartnikowski@gmail.com)) and you would then be responsible for mailing the item to the winner.

Have a happy, safe and healthy New Year. Enjoy your stamps!

## EDITOR'S MUSINGS

BY ARTHUR VON REYN



About two weeks after the November-December newsletter was published, the USPS issued a revised price list for the January 24 rate increase that has yet to be approved by the Postal Rate Commission. It had higher prices for priority mail and first class packages, meaning APS members who receive sales circuits could pay 15¢ more to forward them. Rather than republish the rate chart therein, I simply revised that newsletter edition, which is available on the club website.

Thanks to member Peter Elias, we have 37 more digital issues of this publication available for your perusal on the DPCPS website. Peter had archived on his home computer selected issues dating back to 2003. The 60+ issues now on the website represent a very small percentage of the bulletins issued over the years for our club and our predecessors Dallas Philatelic Society and the Park Cities Philatelic Society. Before more issues are lost forever, once again I appeal to members to search for old club newsletters that are not on the website.

We can blame Covid-19 for making 2020 one year many of us want to forget. Let's look forward to 2021 as being the year we finally quit being constantly hounded to wear masks, wash our hands and maintain "social distancing."

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