



STAMP & TONGS



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DALLAS-PARK CITIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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GREAT BRITAIN CELEBRATES QUEEN MILESTONE

By Arthur P. von Reyn

The Royal Mail issued on February 4 eight stamps featuring photographs of the Queen Elizabeth II throughout her 70-year reign as part of Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Since 2015, the monarch has been the longest reigning in British history.

“These stamps are a celebration of the second Elizabethan Age and a tribute to a remarkable lifetime of duty and public service,” Simon Thompson, CEO, Royal Mail, said. “We are honored to be releasing them to mark the occasion of the first Platinum Jubilee in the UK’s history, a momentous occasion.”

Although these stamps and those from many British Commonwealth countries

have already been issued, the official celebration will occur June 2-5, when the weather in the United Kingdom will hopefully be more cooperative for such festivities.

Elizabeth’s reign began on February 6, 1952 with the death of her father, George VI. She was only 25 years old. Her coronation took place more than a year after her accession, on June 2, 1953. In addition to being the longest reigning British monarch, she is the longest-serving female head of state in history, the oldest living and longest-reigning current monarch, and the oldest and longest-serving incumbent head of state.

During her reign, Africa was decolonized, Great Britain joined the European community and subsequently withdrew, and the United Kingdom suffered though the “Troubles” in Northern Ireland. Her realm has been reduced in size over time as Ceylon, Pakistan, South Africa and a number of smaller constituents withdrew from the British Commonwealth and became republics. Of the larger Commonwealth countries, Australia, Canada and New Zealand remain.

Continued on Page 3

USPS RELIEF BILL BECOMES LAW

By Arthur P. von Reyn

After about a two-week delay due to a technicality, the bipartisan Postal Service Reform Act of 2022 sailed through the U.S. Senate on March 8 by a 79-19 vote. Having been passed by the U.S. House by a similar majority, the legislation was signed by President Biden on April 6, the same day that the U.S. Postal Service filed with the Postal Rate Commission to increase first-class rates 6.5 percent, making the cost of a first class letter 60¢ instead of 58¢ (see related story, page 3).

The law will save the U.S. Postal Service about \$50 billion in employee health care related costs over a 10 year period by eliminating a requirement that it pre-fund health benefits for current and retired employees for 75 years.

Since 2007 the USPS has amassed \$90 billion in losses due to the pre-funding requirement, one that no other federal agency or private business faced.

The law does require the USPS to continue six day a week delivery, develop an online weekly performance data dashboard by ZIP code, and expand special rates for local newspaper distribution.



Great Britain’s Royal Mail issued on February 2 a set of eight stamps for the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II’s reign. The stamps are available in sheet, stamp set and presentation pack form.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

DPCPS meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays January through October and on the second Wednesday in November and December, at the Edgemere Retirement Community, 8523 Thackery Street in Dallas, Texas. Call to order is 7:30 p.m., but most members arrive by 7:00 p.m. for socializing and trading.

- April 8-9** **DALLAS TSDA**, DoubleTree Hotel, 1981 North Central Expy., Richardson, TX 75081. (Friday 10-5, Saturday 9-4).
- April 13** **DPCPS MEETING**, Program: *Wineburgh Philatelic Research Library*, presented by presented by Cassandra Galus-Zawojek, Curator, WPRL, Special Collections, Eugene McDermott Library, UT-Dallas.
- April 27** **DPCPS MEETING**, Program: *Collecting the Presidents*, American Topical Association video presentation.
- May 11** **DPCPS MEETING**, Program: *Quarterly auction*. Lots may be brought to the meeting.
- May 25** **DPCPS MEETING**, Program: *The Story Behind the Stamp*, presented by various members.
- June 8** **DPCPS MEETING**, *Philatelic Subjects Related to the Letter T*, presented by various members.
- June 22** **DPCPS MEETING**, Program to be announced.
- June 24-25** **OKPEX 2022**, Reed Conference Center, 5800 Will Rogers Rd., Midwest City, OK 73110. (Friday 10-6, Saturday 9-4). <http://www.okcsc.org>.
- June 24-25** **DALLAS TSDA**, DoubleTree Hotel, 1981 North Central Expy., Richardson, TX 75081. (Friday 10-5, Saturday 9-4).

STAMP & TONGS

Newsletter of the Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society

Arthur von Reyn, Editor (apvr@msn.com)

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2022 DPCPS OFFICERS

President – Bill Laupus (walsr4005@juno.com)

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Secretary – Rick Hosler (rhosler44@gmail.com)

Treasurer – Rod Gabel (gabelassoc@sbcglobal.net)

Past President – Stan Bartnikowski (stan.bartnikowski@gmail.com)

DPCPS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Baker • Stuart Barzune • Fernando Torres

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. For a membership application write to: Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society, c/o Rick Hosler, 4601 S. Versailles Ave., Dallas, TX 75209.

EDITOR'S MUSINGS

BY ARTHUR VON REYN



You may have heard that I have resigned as your newsletter editor and webmaster. This was mainly due to my relationship with the current club president during the first three months of the year being less than cordial. Thus, I believed it would be best to remove myself from club activities rather than be an impediment to his agenda. I originally intended not to publish this edition, but finally decided to do so belatedly in order to provide an explanation for my disappearance. It was more than half done anyway!

Some may argue with the advent of email, a newsletter is a slow and antiquated method of communication. None the less, every philatelic organization I have joined does have a newsletter, and the better the newsletter, the more the group thrives. I might also mention that a regular publication binds a group together, whether members are able to attend meetings or not.

It is my understanding that your past president, Stan Bartnikowski, has volunteered to replace me as editor. I hope you will consider the tremendous amount of effort and time it takes to publish a newsletter and make his job easier by contributing regularly to this publication, be it articles or even classified advertisements.

I remember back in the 1950s one could go into many five and dime stores and find a selection of stamp packets, usually supplied by H.E. Harris & Company.

In Irving, where I grew up, next to each other in the tiny downtown area were two five-and-dime competitors, one being Ben Franklin and the other Duke and Ayres. Only the latter was large enough to have anything philatelic.

I soon discovered the Yellow Pages section of the Irving phone book had a listing under “stamps for collectors.” Only two blocks away from the Main Street emporiums was an office supply store whose proprietor, Donald Peck, collected stamps. Not only did he sell single U.S. stamps, but offered what seemed to be hundreds of home-made country stamp packets that were far better than the variety store items. He also stocked a range of Minkus products, including some specialty country albums, one of which I still use.

I tell this story in hopes perhaps you will share your early philatelic experiences with your new editor. So I close with a photo I took at a Hobby Lobby store. While five and dimes are long gone, you can still get a taste of the “good old days.”



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DALLASSTAMPS.ORG

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Canada Post feted the QEII platinum jubilee with this domestic rate stamp issued on February 7.

GREAT BRITAIN CELEBRATES QEII

Continued from Page 1.

FOR FURTHER READING:

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabeth_II
- <https://www.countryliving.com/uk/news/a38979801/queen-platinum-jubilee-royal-mail-stamps/>
- <https://globalnews.ca/news/8598940/canada-post-new-stamp-queen-elizabeth/>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Platinum_Jubilee_of_Elizabeth_II

USPS WANTS 60¢ FOR A FOREVER STAMP

By Arthur P. von Reyn

It should be no surprise that U.S. Postal Service is asking to increase postage rates again, with a new price of 60¢ for a Forever stamp.

As previously noted in this newsletter, the USPS has implemented a semi-annual price increase methodology, with the cost of first class mail and related services going up in the summer, and prices for packages rising in mid-winter, along with transitory price hikes for the latter during the holiday season.

The latest round of price increases would take effect July 10, 2022, if favorably reviewed by the Postal Regulatory Commission. Not only would a Forever stamp cost two cents more, but a postcard would go up four cents to 44 cents.

The prices, approved by the Governors of the U.S. Postal Service, would hike first-class mail prices approximately 6.5 percent which is lower than the Bureau of Labor Statistics annual inflation rate of 7.9 percent as of the end of February.

According to an April 6 news release,

“The price changes reflect a judicious implementation of the Postal Service’s pricing authority provided by the Postal Regulatory Commission.”

In addition, the single-piece letter additional ounce price would increase to 24 cents, the metered mail one-ounce price would rise to 57 cents and a one-ounce letter mailed to other countries would cost \$1.40. The Postal Service also wants to charge more for special services including certified mail, registered mail, money orders, postal insurance and post office box rentals. Selected rates are reflected in the comparison chart below.

Although the Postal Rate Commission reviews the USPS rate hike requests, in recent years this has mostly been a formality with few, if any, changes being made, perhaps due to prior communications between the two agencies.

FOR FURTHER READING:

- <https://about.usps.com/newsroom/national-releases/2022/0406-usps-new-prices-for-2022.htm#>
- <https://pe.usps.com/PriceChange/Index?>

U.S. POSTAL RATE COMPARISON 2020-2022 (SELECTED PRODUCTS)

STAMPS ARE/WERE AVAILABLE FOR ITEMS HIGHLIGHTED IN RED

Product	7/10/2022*	1/09/2022	8/29/2021*	1/24/2021	1/26/2020
Letters (1 oz.)	.60	.58	.58	.55	.55
Letters, additional ounces	.24	.20	.20	.20	.15
Letters (metered 1 oz.)	.57	.53	.53	.51	.50
International Letters(1 oz.)/Postcards	1.40	1.30	1.30	1.20	1.20
Domestic Postcards	.44	.40	.40	.36	.35
Flats (1 oz.)	1.20	1.16	1.16	1.00	1.00
Non-Machinable Letter Surcharge ¹	+.39	+.30	+.30	+.20	+.15
Small Flat-Rate Box	9.45	9.45	8.45	8.45	8.30
Medium Flat-Rate Box	16.10	16.10	15.50	15.50	15.05
Large Flat-Rate Box	21.50	21.50	21.90	21.90	21.10
APO/FPO Large Flat-Rate Box	20.00	20.00	20.40	20.40	19.60
Regular Flat-Rate Envelope	8.95	8.95	7.95	7.95	7.75
Legal Flat-Rate Envelope	9.25	9.25	8.25	8.25	8.05
Padded Flat-Rate Envelope	9.65	9.65	8.55	8.55	8.40
Priority Mail Express Flat Rate Envelope	26.95	26.95	26.35	26.35	26.35
Media Mail (1 lb.)	3.49	3.19	3.19	2.89	2.80
First-Class Package (1-4 oz.) ²	4.50-5.00	4.50-5.00	4.00-4.40	4.00-4.40	3.80-4.20
First-Class Package (5-8 oz.) ²	5.10-5.50	5.10-5.50	4.80-5.20	4.80-5.20	4.60-5.00
First-Class Package (9-12 oz.) ²	5.80-6.25	5.80-6.25	5.50-5.95	5.50-5.95	5.30-5.75
First-Class Package (13 oz.) ²	7.05-7.65	7.05-7.65	6.10-6.70	6.10-6.70	5.90-6.50
Insurance \$0 - \$50 (no charge with Priority Mail)	+2.60	+2.45	+2.45	+2.30	+2.25
Insurance \$50.01-\$100.00)	+3.35	+3.15	+3.15	+2.95	+2.85
Insurance \$100.01-\$200.00)	+4.10	+3.85	+3.85	+3.60	+3.55
Certified	+4.00	+3.75	+3.75	+3.60	+3.55
Registered (basic, no valuation)	+14.65	+13.75	+13.75	+12.90	+12.60

*Does not include seasonal holiday shipping prices. ¹Add letter rate and surcharge to obtain the value of stamp issued to meet this rate. ²Zone based.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Barcode Term Misuse

In looking at your main article (“Everyday” British Stamps Set To Expire,” March 2022), you refer to the codes as “matrix bar codes”. Technically there’s “matrix codes” (also known as “data matrix codes”) or “bar codes”. There’s no such thing as a “matrix bar code.” Bar code means just that.

Peter C. Elias

Editor’s Note: You are correct that it is a matrix code, but throughout the quoted Royal Mail news release, the term “barcode” is used. It appears “barcode” has become a generic term for any recognition code, i.e. bar, matrix, QR, etc., that is scanned and translated into data for a device such as a computer or smart phone.

CLASSIFIED ADS

One classified ad of up to 50 words, not counting name and address information, is available to members per issue on a space available basis. Submissions should arrive no later than the first meeting of the month preceding the issue date. Ads run for four consecutive issues, unless canceled before then. Submissions can be emailed to apvr@msn.com or mailed to 10512 Countess Dr., Dallas, TX 75229-5103.

FOR SALE

U.S. 2022 COILS: Flags APU 100, BCA 100, BCA 3,000, 60c each, \$1.20 per pair; 4c Blueberries @ 5c each, 10c a pair; Butterfly Garden Flowers (non-profit 5c) @ 10c per pair. Stan Bartnikowski, stan.bartnikowski@gmail.com, (972) 492-0222.

WANTED

HONG KONG POSTALLY USED; various singles and sets between Scott #218 and #791. Contact Geoff Owens at gmoptx@verizon.net or bring what you have to a club meeting.

SWITZERLAND USED tête-bêche pairs, especially from 1960s messenger/buildings definitive issue. Arthur P. von Reyn, apvr@msn.com, (214) 956-6840.

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STAMP &
TONGS
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CLUB MEETING MINUTES

BY RICK HOSLER

Editor’s Note: Minutes are edited due to space considerations.

March 9, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Bill Laupus, President, and presiding. 22 members were present, including two online.

Officer Reports:

Secretary – Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without being read.

Treasurer – Treasurer’s report made and sent under separate cover. The bill for the holiday dinner has been paid.

Program VP – March meeting schedule:

March 23 – *Postal Inspection Service*, presented by Glen Henderson, Assistant Inspector in Charge, Fort Worth Division, U.S. Postal Service.

Editor/Website – The March newsletter has been distributed.

Membership – There are 55 members, including two have not paid their dues. An application from John von Reyn of Manassas, Virginia, is pending approval.

New Business – A motion was made a seconded to approve the membership of John M. von Reyn of Manassas, Virginia, without meeting the applicant attendance requirement. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements – George Clayton reported the Edgemere has a solvency problem and the land owner wants to end the Edgemere’s 100 year lease because property values have

escalated. The Edgemere has existed for 22 years and there is a need for new tenants. Don Wolman brought a portion of the late Erwin Silverman’s (past DPCPS member) stamp collection, including some WWII censored covers offered to members for which donations to Silverman’s family were requested. Additional portions of the collection will be offered at future meetings.

Program – Around 40 items were offered for quarterly auction.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. after the distribution of Jack’s Albums and the sale of previously circulated collections.

2022 U.S. NEW ISSUES CALENDAR

This is a list of U.S. new issues expected to debut in the next few months. Items are forever stamps with the current or anticipated value in parenthesis, unless otherwise noted. The complete 2022 U.S. stamp program can be found on the dallasstamps.org website.

- 4/8/2020 **SHEL SILVERSTEIN** (58¢) commemorative stamp in pane of 20. Chicago, IL 60607.
- 4/14/2022 **FLAGS ON BARN** (10¢) four pre-sorted standard stamps in coils of 3,000 and 10,000. Halifax, PA 17032.
- 4/22/2022 **GEORGE MORRISON** (58¢) commemorative stamps, five designs in panes of 20, Grand Portage, MN 55605.
- 5/4/2022 **EUGENIE CLARK** (58¢) commemorative stamp in pane of 20, Sarasota, FL 34230.
- 5/13/2022 **WOMEN’S ROWING** (58¢) commemorative stamps, four designs in pane of 20, Philadelphia, PA 19104.
- 5/23/2020 **MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI**, (58¢) commemorative stamps, 10 designs in pane of 10, Memphis, TN 38101.
- 6/14/2022 **KATHERINE GRAHAM** (78¢) commemorative stamp in pane of 20. Washington, DC 20066.
- 6/20/2022 **FLORAL GEOMETRY** \$2.00 definitive stamp in pane of 10, Kansas City, MO 64108.
- 6/20/2022 **FLORAL GEOMETRY** \$5.00 definitive stamp in pane of 4, Kansas City, MO 64108.
- 7/15/2022 **MARIACHI** (60¢) commemorative stamps, five designs in pane of 20. Albuquerque NM 87101.
- 7/21/2022 **PETE SEEGER** (60¢) commemorative stamp in pane of 16. Newport RI 02840.
- 8/5/2022 **NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES** (60¢) commemorative stamps, 16 designs in pane of 16. Santa Cruz, CA 95060.
- 8/12/2022 **ELEPHANTS** (60¢) booklet of 20 commemorative stamps. Hohenwald, TN 38562.
- 8/25/2022 **PONY CARS** (60¢) commemorative stamps, five designs in pane of 20. Sacramento, CA 95813.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY RICK HOSLER

APPLICATION PENDING

Andras G. Lacko, Dallas, TX

NEW MEMBER

#466 John M. von Reyn, Manassas, VA

Membership, February 9, 2022 55

New Member 1

Membership, March 9, 2022 56

**TAKE HOME A
VOLUME OF OUR
2020 SCOTT
STANDARD
POSTAGE STAMP
CATALOGUE
See George Clayton at
any club meeting.**