



Sno-King Stamp Club

Philatelic News

Everett, 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 PM – 9 PM
Snohomish County PUD
2320 California Street

Edmonds, 3rd Friday, 7 PM – 9 PM
South County Senior Center
220 South Railroad Avenue

Volume 23

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Number 8

Online at: <http://sno-kingstampclub.freehostia.com/> copies of these newsletters available there, too!

Everett Meeting Wednesday, September 13th, 7:30 PM

- **Dealer Night** – Jim Hall of Kirkland will bring several notebooks of modern postage stamps, most of them postally used. Organized by topic, but contain material which should appeal to the general collector. *See Full Details on page 2.*
- As always, feel free to bring some Show and Tell items to talk about.

Most meetings also include **show-and-tell**, along with time to **buy and sell** stamps

Edmonds Meeting Friday, September 22nd, 7 PM

Buy/Sell>Show/Tell

- Join us in Edmonds! We always have a nice time visiting and looking through stamps.
- Bring along your duplicates to sell and trade.
- Bring some Show and Tell items to talk about.

2017 Club Officers

President:	Steve LaVergne	206-361-3774;	stampingsteve42@hotmail.com
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Webmaster & Newsletter Editor:	Kurt Lange,	425-357-0551;	http://sno-kingstampclub.freehostia.com/ ktk.lange@frontier.com

Everett 2017 meeting dates at the PUD: (2nd Wednesday of each month)
9/13, 10/11, 11/8, (Dec dinner)

Edmonds 2017 meeting dates at the South County Senior Center: (on the 3rd - or sometimes 4th - Friday of the month)
9/22, 10/20, (none-Nov.), (Dec dinner)

President's Column

Our Everett September meeting will feature another Dealer Night. September's featured dealer is Jim Hall of Kirkland. Jim has chaired our annual stamp show in recent years and has consistently done a great job. He is also a board member in the Collectors Club of Seattle and a prime mover of SEAPEX.

Jim will bring several notebooks of modern postage stamps, most of them postally used. These notebooks are organized by topic, but contain material which should appeal to the general collector.

Jim cannot bring his entire stock, much of which is housed in 102 cards organized in those red boxes familiar to stamp show habitués. If you prefer to thumb through Jim's stock from your favored countries, you should contact him prior to the meeting and make your request. If you send your request to me, I will forward it to Jim.

September will be the first of three consecutive months with Dealer Nights. Carol Edholm is scheduled to be October's dealer, and November will feature Art Vanbergeyk of Aurora Stamps.

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Are you the member who selected Great Britain 131 from the APS circuit books made available at the June and July meetings? If so, you did not apply the club's rubber stamp to its box. You probably also did not include the \$6 retail price in your payment. If that's you, you can pay me that \$6. I wound up covering it.

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Looking for a stamp buddy? Then, be a stamp buddy. The SEAPEX committee is looking for volunteer stamp buddies to talk stamps at its annual three-day show in Tukwila. A stamp buddy is assigned to a table, where he or she is available to explain the hobby to newer collectors. It isn't necessary that one possess Ingo Toll's encyclopedic grasp of matters philatelic, but it won't hurt.

You might be asked to do little more than answer queries such as what do you find most enjoyable about stamp collecting. The typical Sno-King member should be knowledgeable enough to do a creditable job. If you have some hours to spare, open the SEAPEX website and click on the volunteer link. You can volunteer for any number of tasks. I have already volunteered to cover the registration table the first two mornings. This year, SEAPEX takes place Friday through Sunday, September 8 through 10, at the Tukwila Community Center.

This web site lists 30 participating dealers, who hail from seven states, and three days of events. Carol Edholm, one of our longtime members, has reserved space next to Keith Moreland of African Drummer and back-to-back with Tim Greene of Evergreen Stamps. Carol will officiate at Sunday's silent auction.

Among the more intriguing events will be Friday's presentation on "Robbing the Post Office." This should be of interest to anyone interesting in organizing an APS chapter inside the federal prison in Sheridan, Ore. A Saturday highlight is a one-hour discourse, "Let's Hear It For the Monkey," which concerns China's 1980 New Year Stamps.

SEAPEX is perhaps the premier event of the year for the Puget Sound region's stamp collectors, that is, unless you cross I-5 into Oregon and count PIPEX.

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This year's SEAPEX theme is the 100th anniversary of Camp Lewis, now part of Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM). Saturday's events will include a ceremony marking the centennial of the Army installation founded during the First World War. Later, it was redesignated Fort Lewis. When Congress passed laws closing certain military bases, it combined Fort Lewis with its neighbor, McChord Air Force Base, and gave the installation its current name.

Fort Lewis is part of my wife's history and, to a lesser extent, mine. My late wife, then 1st Lt. Irene Day, served two years as an Army nurse at Madigan Army Medical Center, located on Fort Lewis. In 1967, I completed two weeks of Army Reserve summer camp at Fort Lewis. In 1966, I completed my two-year draftee stint, but came home not quite a full-fledged civilian. I still had a four-year reserve obligation.

Out of curiosity, I opened the JBLM website to compare today's Army with the one I remember. One obvious difference is that each base has a website.

I located a page which highlighted the military's smoking cessation programs. In my day, the Army handed out cigarettes with its C-rations.

I also found one page listing dozens of marijuana retail outlets in Washington State. No, this was not a shopping guide. This was the Army's list of off-limits establishments, 2017 style. This is the Army's way of reminding troops that while recreational marijuana is legal for civilians in this state, smoking pot is still a court-martial offense. In my day, off-limits lists focused on gay bars and such establishments as the Heron Street "cribs" in Aberdeen, where city fathers laid out the red carpet for red-light-district entrepreneurs.

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Congratulations to Carol Edholm, winner of the Thunderbird award at the Evergreen Stamp Club's July show for her exhibit, "Madras, India; Experimental Cancellations, an Introduction." This Thunderbird award is a recently reinstated honor tendered by the Evergreen Stamp Club, once known as the Boeing Stamp Club. Sno-King member Richard Horner won the People's Choice award for his exhibit, "Easter Stamps of the World."

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Recently, we happened across two lists of collectables which are now close to worthless. Stamps made one list. The accompanying blurb disparaged adolescent collections hauled out of mothballs in hopes that the intervening half-century made them priceless treasures. The blurb correctly stated that U.S. stamps issued in the past 70 years have no market value.

This blurb made no attempt to devalue your mint never-hinged plate number Zeppelins.

Sharing the list with stamps were vinyl records, "wheat pennies," "brown furniture," comic books, costume jewelry, model train sets, serving platters, children's books and vintage college pennants. Each category does have rare items which command hefty prices. For example, a small number of Bob Dylan's 1963 album, "Freewheelin'," have four extra songs. These rarities command premium prices.

My copy of "Freewheelin'" lacks these extra numbers. Moreover, I've played it. Collectors pay only for platters untouched by a phonograph needle, which sort of defeats the purpose of record-buying. It's that hobby's version of mint-never-hinged. In any case, I enjoyed my many listens to Dylan's "Talking World War III Blues." That album, Dylan's second, introduced "Blowin' in the Wind."

The second list focuses on merchandise marketed specifically as collectables. Franklin Mint products are a telling example. Several products made both lists. They were Precious Moments figurines, Beanie Babies, Norman Rockwell plates, Happy Meal toys and Cabbage Patch kids. The list was compiled by comparing asking prices on E-bay with selling prices on Amazon.

Rounding out the second list were Hummel figurines, Liadro statues, Thomas Kincade paintings, Hot Wheels, trading cards such as Pokémon, Hess model trucks, pogs, marbles and CDs/DVDs.

What many have in common is a craze that stimulated demand, which assembly lines went into overdrive to meet, leaving a glut on the secondary market when the craze subsided.

Of course, I was worried sick that my stamp collection is worth zero. This worry was dispelled the following day. I opened my mailbox to find that Mystic Stamp Co. is willing to travel all the way to my north Seattle home to make an offer on my collection. Members had better hope I pitch Mystic's mail. Otherwise, the club will have to conscript a new president.

USPS - New Issues for September 2017

September 1 **Father Theodore Hesburgh**
sheet & coil versions

Ceremony: SOUTH BEND, IN

