



Sno-King Stamp Club Philatelic News



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

Edmonds, (on hold)

Volume 25

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Number 8

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

Everett Meeting

Wednesday, **September 11th**, 7:30 PM

- **Dealer Night** - Keith Ferris - based in Marysville and who frequently appears at shows all along the Interstate 5 corridor - will be our featured dealer this month. Keith sells worldwide stamps, having a special focus on Latin America. He also sells country collections.

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

[**Edmonds** meetings are on hold until further notice to sort out some how / where / when details]

2019 Club Officers

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Everett 2019 meeting dates at the PUD:

9/11 Dealer Night-Keith Ferris, 10/9 Dealer Night-Carol Edholm, 11/13 Dealer Night-Art VanBergeyk, (12/11? Dec Dinner)

President's Column

Our **September** meeting will feature a Dealer Night. Our featured dealer will be Keith Ferris, who is based in Marysville and who frequently appears at shows all along the Interstate 5 corridor. Keith sells worldwide stamps, having a special focus on Latin America. He also sells country collections. I asked him to bring collections which include better material. If you would like Keith to bring material from a favorite country, contact me. I will relay your request to Keith. Incidentally, he is not among the 24 dealers renting tables at SeaPex.

We will also vote on whether to provide financial support to SeaPex, the three-day show which opens two days after our September meeting. Over the past few years, our club has made an annual donation to SeaPex. Typically, SeaPex would send a letter earlier in the year requesting support. As president, I would submit this request to a vote at the next membership meeting.

This year, there was no letter. When I pondered this, I wondered if SeaPex's finances had improved such as to no longer require external donations. Perhaps, SeaPex had finally liquidated its debt. Then, after our July meeting, a SeaPex official sent me an e-mail and asked, as an aside, if the club would again provide financial support. I replied that our club would not be meeting until September and that, being a democracy, the club could not make a donation without a vote of its members.

SeaPex incurs expenses not faced by the typical stamp bourse. Most of these are associated with the exhibits which make SeaPex special. SeaPex has to pay the expenses of the seven judges who decide which exhibits are worthy of awards. The nearest judge is coming from Portland. One judge lives in Finland, another in South Africa. SeaPex also pays for overnight security to protect the pricey and irreplaceable material found in many exhibits.

Heard of postcrossing? That will be the subject of my show-and-tell in September.

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In coming months, I will bring a portion of the massive amount of philatelic material which has been donated to the club. A large sample was offered for sale at the July meeting. Results were encouraging. For most purchases, members used their name-your-price tool. Total sales enriched the club coffers by \$180. This is remarkable, given that most donations were starter collections. There were two donations of multiple boxes. It was clear that these accumulations were assembled by individuals who devoted more time than money to the hobby.

There is a mass of material which hardly qualifies as treasure. We have stock books worth more than the stamps inside. There are envelopes stuffed with common stamps. Then, there is bundlware, in my mind a pointless and labor-intensive way of organizing one's philatelic holdings.

I will extract the more salable material. There are treasures among the commonplace. The prime example is a USA C5 on cover. I found three packets of modern used German commemoratives. There is an immense accumulation of Christmas seals. A never-used three-volume USA album will be among the offerings. In a previous issue, I mentioned a brown Scott International which has never been used, even though it was printed more than 85 years ago. There are several bags of on-paper stamps which are best sold by the bag.

I found a mass of mint USA. I will make this material, which includes plate blocks, available at a discount from face value. I will use unsold material for club mailings. So, don't be surprised if your newsletter arrives with a two-cent Burgoyne on the cover.

The club will be flexible about making sales. Bring your name-your-price tool. You can make an offer on an individual item, an entire box or anything in between. Since this mass of material is cluttering my home, eventually the City of Seattle recycling contractor will acquire most everything which can't find a buyer.

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A post office with not a single stamp for sale! That's like Ivar's telling you, "We're out of seafood. No land food, as well." That shouldn't happen in America. But, it did July 25 at the post office in Shoreline. My friend, Renee, and I visited the Shoreline post office, now located in the Gateway building across from Fred Meyer and a hop and stutter-step north of the former location of Aurora Stamps. A clerk informed us it had no stamps. He didn't mean the station had its supply of forever stamps. It had no stamps period. No five- or ten-cent stamps. No two- or three-cent stamps. No special-purpose stamps for postcards or international mailings. The clerk expected the next shipment would not arrive until August.

"Delivery problems," was the explanation. I formed a mental picture of a Pony Express rider, his saddlebags stuffed with forever stamps, losing his way through the Rockies.

Thanks to the Shoreline News, I learned of a fiasco involving the Shoreline post office. For years, the post office leased a building near 15th Avenue Northeast and Northeast 175th Street. Typically, the postal service renewed the lease annually. Then, in 2016, it negotiated a five-year extension of a one-year lease which was to end in July, 2017. Ah, we are good through 2022, the postal service thought.

Then came a notice informing the postal service it needed to vacate the premises by the end of December, 2017. What about our five-year lease, postal officials responded. Read the contract, came the reply. The contract featured a clause providing that if the property sold, the new owner could terminate the lease. Some postal service official evidently signed the extension without perusing the fine print.

The postal service had to scramble to find a new location by year's end. Unable to find a Shoreline site large enough to house both its retail operations and its carrier vehicles, it now rents the Gateway storefront for retail operations and bases its vehicle fleet at an old Office Depot site just across the county line. Meanwhile, drive by the former location, and you will observe a massive multi-family residential development under construction.

This brings to mind a pet peeve. My position with my high school alumni association involves mailing five-ounce first-class envelopes, which require \$1.60 in postage. I get creative in using as few stamps as possible. I hit upon using the international-rate stamp (\$1.15), the postcard-rate stamp (.35) and a 10-cent stamp. Sometimes, I use a combination involving a three-ounce stamp, a two-ounce stamp and the 15-cent stamp which pays for those extra ounces on first-class mail. It galls me when a post office clerk tells me that particular branch is out of one stamp I need to make that day's scheme work. Is it too much to ask each postal station to maintain a stock of all stamps used by the public?

I close with a shout out to the post office on Eighth Avenue Northeast, not far from Northgate. It maintains a welcome diversity of commemoratives and themed stamps.

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The Edmonds Historical Museum has an exhibit which should be of interest to philatelists. This exhibit's title is Post & Parcel, which explores the history of this country's postal system. It shows how transportation innovations and technological change affected the way the mails moved. The exhibit focuses on local postal history and features postcards from the museum's collection.

The museum is housed in a 1910 vintage Carnegie library at 118 First Avenue North. It is open from 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. There is no admission charge, but the museum suggests that adults make a \$5 contribution.

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There are several intriguing competitive exhibits you can view at **SeaPex which begins two days after our September meeting**. Three describe how World War II affected mail to landlocked Switzerland, surrounded by Axis military forces. One concerns America's suspension of American postal service to Switzerland. Another describes how Red Cross operatives in Italy used the mail to stay in touch with its headquarters in Geneva. A third provides examples of censored postcards traveling through Switzerland.

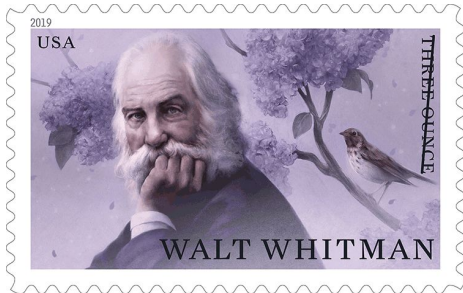
Here's a sampling of other exhibits I find appealing:

- Mail from British and French political and military prisoners from the Napoleonic wars through the Franco-Prussian war.
- German postal operations in its Pacific Ocean colonies through 1914.
- How Norwegian immigration inspired naming of American post offices after Norway place-names.
- Mail from wealthy tourists posted from a swank Swiss Hotel between 1871 and 1914.
- Postcards used through 1930 depicting travelers to Mt. Rainier.
- In the non-competitive arena, club member Keith Edholm is displaying his familiar material about camels and their kin.

Incidentally, I volunteered to work at the registration desk Friday and Saturday mornings. Assisting me one morning will be Richard Horner, a club member who lives in Des Moines.

USPS New Stamps to be Issued in September 2019

September 12 Forever **Walt Whitman** (3-ounce)
HUNTINGTON STATION, NY



September 17 Forever **Winter Berries**
TULSA, OK



An Post apologises for spelling error on Moon stamps

<https://www.rte.ie/news/2019/0723/1064694-an-post-stamps/>

Updated / Tuesday, 23 Jul 2019 10:32



An Post said the letters 'a' and 'e' were transposed on the stamps

An Post has been forced to apologise for a spelling error that appeared on its new commemorative stamps celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Moon landings.

The series of stamps, which featured four NASA astronauts with Irish ancestry, saw the Irish word for moon, 'gealach', accidentally replaced with 'gaelach', meaning Irish.

The mix-up resulted in the sentence "50th Anniversary of the First Landing **on the Irish**" appearing on the stamps.



An Post said: "While the original Irish text was correct, the transposition of letters in a later draft was not picked up during final proofing, ahead of the printing and release of the stamps on July 4th last.

"During the design process for the recent Space Exploration stamps, the letters 'a' and 'e' were transposed in the Irish language title on two of the four stamps."



An Post has said that it has made arrangements to ensure that such errors will not happen again.

The stamps were released in a ceremony last week by retired astronaut Cady Coleman, who is one of the astronauts featured on the stamps along with Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins and Eileen Collins.

