



Sno-King Stamp Club Philatelic News



Serving collectors in Snohomish County and north King County since 1960

Everett, 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 PM – 9 PM

Edmonds, (on hold)

Snohomish County PUD

2320 California Street

Volume 28

July 2023

Number 7

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

Everett Meeting

Wednesday, July 12th, 7:30 PM

- **Err Mail** - Steve LaVergne will discuss one U.S. stamp (with a Seattle connection) which features misinformation. This should be of special interest to members who love music, especially that from the swing era.
- **Buy/Sell/Trade** - Bring your stuff to sell. Buy some stuff from others.

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]

2023 Club Officers

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Webmaster &			http://sno-kingstampclub.freehostia.com/
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Dates for our 2023 meetings (2nd Wednesday at the Everett PUD)
7/12, (8/9 BBQ at Art Verlinde's house), 9/13, 10/11, 11/8, (12/13 dinner)

President's Column

Steve LaVergne

"To Err is Divine" was a popular feature of Scott's Monthly Stamp News. It offered an amusing look at misspellings and other errors which made their way into the postal paper of nations around the globe.

U.S. stamps were rarely held up to this sort of ridicule. Perhaps, it was because our postal service does a better job of fact-checking. But, our postal service is not perfect. At our **July meeting**, I will present a program on one U.S. stamp which features misinformation.

I did some sleuthing which yielded documents proving that this stamp is in error. These documents are accessible with just a few clicks in an authoritative digital archive. Yet, to the best of my knowledge, they have never been publicly linked to the subject matter of this stamp.

I hope you will find this interesting. This is a stamp with a Seattle connection. This should be of special interest to members who love music, especially that from the swing era.

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Thanks to Art Verlinde, the club will be able to continue its August tradition of holding a summer picnic. Art offered to host this year's picnic at his home in Snohomish. The date is **Wednesday, August 9**.

The club will provide the makings for hamburgers and hot dogs. In addition, the club will provide soft drinks. Members will be asked to provide side dishes, desserts and salads.

Art's address is 9326 62d Place SE. His home lies in a rural area northeast of the City of Snohomish. Marcella Hall-McMurtrie has graciously offered to help Art prepare for the picnic.

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There will be no SeaPex this year. The governing board of the organization which manages this three-day September show has decided to cancel its plans for a 2023 show. Instead, it will try to get a head start on a 2024 show.

The SeaPex organization was hampered by the lack of a president and vice-president since the 2022 show. As a result, the organization was left with a governing board without clearly defined individual responsibilities. Some time-sensitive tasks weren't accomplished. With just two months remaining until the show, the SeaPex organization decided there wasn't time to play catch-up.

There was talk of making the event a bourse, that is to have dealer tables with no competitive exhibits. But, that idea failed to gain traction.

The SeaPex website has been updated to highlight the cancellation. The website invites collectors to volunteer to help out at the 2024 show with such functions as registering attendees and managing exhibits.

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If you are the typical collector, you enjoy talking about your more interesting acquisitions. As a member of a club which meets monthly, you have a readymade audience. Why not volunteer to present a program at a future meeting.

While I have asked for a volunteer to function as program chairman, I will be happy to entertain volunteers to put on programs. As it is, I currently function as de facto program chair, which means that in a pinch, I am the program.

I do have some interesting program topics, but eventually, I will exhaust them.

I once was invited to attend a meeting of a membership-by-invitation-only group which met in the Seattle area. One requirement of membership was that once a year, you present a program. Just to make things clear, I am not advocating that as a condition of Sno-King membership.

So, I invite you to ask me about having you present a program. We can work out details, such as timing and the need for any audio-visual aids.

New postal rates begin this month

While there are MANY rates that change on JULY 9TH, these are the most common you should know:

• Letters (1 oz.)	66 cents
• Letters (2 oz.)	90 cents
• Domestic Postcards	51 cents

New USPS Stamps for July 2023

July 9 Forever **Northern Cardinal** (Stamped Envelope)
BIRD CITY, KS 67731

July 21 Forever **John Lewis**
ATLANTA, GA 30304



A New Sub-Niche: The World of Sports-Themed Postage Stamps

By Paul Lukas - June 16, 2023 - www.uni-watch.com/

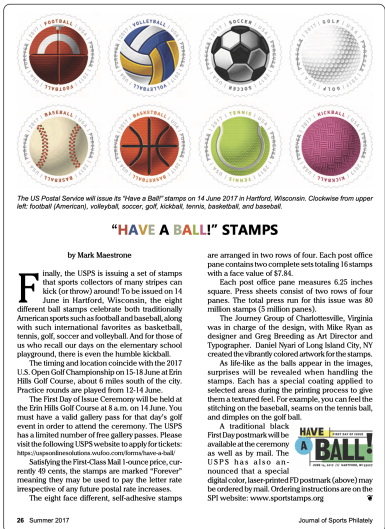
from - <https://uni-watch.com/2023/06/16/a-new-sub-niche-the-world-of-sports-themed-postage-stamps/>

Last week I attended a social gathering and ended up talking to a guy who asked what I do for a living. I explained that I write about uniforms, logos, and other aspects of athletics aesthetics. “Oh, my father would probably love to talk to you,” he said. “He’s really into sports philately.”

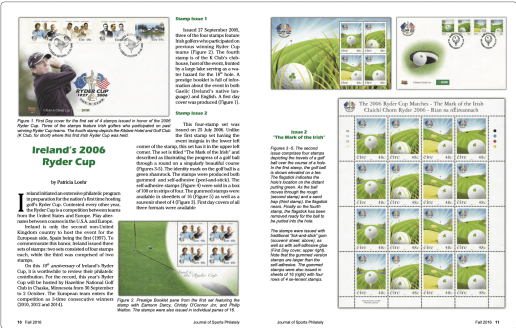
Philately, of course, is the collection and study of postage stamps. Obviously, I was aware that sports-themed stamps exist, but I hadn’t occurred to me that some philatelists might specialize in collecting sports-themed stamps. As the guy at the social event explained to me, this is such a strong niche interest that there’s actually an organization called Sports Philatelists International, which has been around since 1962. They produce a quarterly publication called the Journal of Sports Philately, which is apparently the pre-eminent (only?) resource in the field.

The last six years’ worth of the Journal’s archives are paywalled, but everything prior to that – a slew of issues dating from 1962 through 2017 – has been digitally archived and is accessible for viewing and download. The early issues, perhaps unsurprisingly, were mimeographed newsletters, but the project eventually evolved into a slick, full-color magazine.

Some of the articles in the Journal are simple reports on new sports-themed stamp releases, like this one-page 2017 article on the U.S. Postal Service’s then-new edition of ball-based stamps:



There are also articles about stamps from the recent past, like this 2016 piece about the stamps that Ireland released when the country was hosting the 2006 Ryder Cup:



And then there are historical deep dives, like this lengthy examination of stamps commemorating the 1928 Summer Olympics in Amsterdam (just the first article of a four-part series!):



In short, the Journal seems a lot like Uni Watch, with excruciatingly detailed coverage of a niche topic that most people don't care about but some people really care about.

Even if you're not interested in reading the text of the articles (I'm not that interested in doing so myself), many of the stamp designs are really cool:



There's also coverage of sports-themed postmarks, which in some ways are even cooler than the stamps:



And so on. I'm just scratching the surface here — I definitely encourage you to poke around in the Journal's archives to learn more.

I've really enjoyed getting acquainted with this new subset of athletics aesthetics. Or at least it's new to me — are any Uni Watch readers already into the sports philately scene?

After hearing that this new A.I. technology can also have a sense of humor, I logged into it and requested that it write a funny stamp-based Limerick using philatelic wording. I was somewhat stunned when it actually produced this in a couple seconds! I suppose A.I. is not always for research or other serious pursuits.
- Editor

There once was a stamp collector named Hugh,
Whose hobby he truly adored, it was true.
With albums and tweezers, He sorted with great pleasure,
Oh, the joy that collecting stamps drew!

He had a perforation fixation,
And studied with great dedication.
He'd say, "Gummed or mint, I simply can't stint,
On the value of preservation!"

In his den, he'd pore over each stamp,
While his friends thought his hobby was damp.
But he'd shout with elation, "Look, an inverted creation!
A rare find that's worth quite the amp!"

He'd talk of hinge marks and cancels galore,
Of overprints and errors he'd explore.
His friends found it absurd, That he knew every word,
From philately's vast lexical store.

He boasted of his prized tête-bêche,
A delight that made others say, "Hey!"
With embossing so fine, His collection did shine,
And it brought joy to his heart every day.

One day, he discovered a treasure,
A stamp that brought him pure pleasure.
With delight on his face, He won a philatelic race,
And his love for the hobby knew no measure.

So let us salute the stamp aficionado,
Whose passion for philately never laid low.
In his world so surreal, He found joy that was real,
And through stamps, he made his joy grow!