

# **Sno-King Stamp Club** Philatelic News



Serving collectors in Snohomish County and north King County since 1960

Everett, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 7:30 PM – 9 PM

Edmonds, (on hold)

**Snohomish County PUD** 2320 California Street

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

## **Everett Meeting** Wednesday, October 11th, 7:30 PM

This Month's Program - APS Circuit Books

The American Philatelic Society has sent us circuit books for our October meeting covering collecting areas based on past requests by members and individual collecting interests.

Buy / Sell / Trade - AKA: sell 'em if you got 'em, buy 'em if you need 'em

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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**Program Chairman:** (available position)

Webmaster &

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**Newsletter Editor:** Kurt D Lange, 425-343-7435; kurt.d.lange@gmail.com

> Dates for our 2023 meetings (2nd Wednesday at the Everett PUD) 10/11, 11/8, (12/13 dinner)

### President's Column

Steve LaVergne

For our **October** meeting, club members will have a chance to purchase stamps from 20 **circuit books** from the American Philatelic Society (APS). While I didn't have a chance to query members as to countries which interest them, I relied on their choices from past circuit book mailings.

The 20 books cover US revenues and other back-of-book areas. They also include Korea, Czechoslovakia, British Middle East, Bavaria, Latvia, Australia states, pre-1940 Germany, Balkans, US Washington/Franklins, Asia, 19th Century US, Greece and French colonies.

Highlights include the 50-cent trans-Mississippi, two Bavaria stamps with Berlin cancellations and a used block-of-four of US J43, a 30-cent postage due stamp from the late 19th Century. It seems that around the turn of the century, some mailer shorted the post office \$1.20.

As for the Bavaria stamps, Scott says that while Berlin lies outside Bavaria, late Bavarian stamps were available, though not commonly used, outside Bavaria.

As with previous selections of circuit books, members will be asked to record each item they purchase. Members will also be asked to pay a five-percent surcharge, which will cover the club's cost in returning the books to APS.

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With an eye to the annual election of officers in November, there will be **nominations** for the four club offices at our October meeting. The club will need to find a member willing to serve as vice-president in 2024.

On the national level, political observers expect debate over how advancing age affects the ability of certain candidates to perform their duties. We hope our club avoids similar debate, as several prospective candidates fall within the same age group as certain projected presidential hopefuls.

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September's two-day SeaPex bourse was, by all measure, a success. Attendance approached 100 both days. The only discordant note was that in two cases, the flimsy chairs provided by the Tukwila Community Center collapsed under their users. Neither case resulted in serious injury.

Our hobby does attract certain individuals who are, how shall we phrase this, a bit on the portly side. The owner of the venue should provide chairs sturdy enough to safely support all anticipated users.

We can only hope that the City of Tukwila realizes it was lucky that neither mishap resulted in serious injury culminating in a costly lawsuit.

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Are you reluctant to shed the hundreds of dollars needed to acquire the **current Scott catalog**? You can use your senior bus fare to inexpensively use the 2024 catalogs arriving at the downtown Seattle Public Library.

While most library branches have catalogs two to six years old, the downtown library stocks the current catalogs in its reference section on the seventh floor.

As with other items in the reference section, the catalogs cannot be checked out for home use. The upside is that the catalogs should be available for anyone wishing to use them. You do not need a library

card to use reference materials. You can simply pluck a catalog from the shelf and use it at a convenient carrel. The Dewey decimal number is 383.

Speaking of libraries, the Shoreline branch of the King County Library has current copies of Linn's Stamp News.

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The Olympia Stamp Society will hold its fall Roundup Saturday, **October 21**, at Columbia Hall, located at 6794 Martin Way East in **Lacey**. Simplest way to get there is to take the Nisqually exit from Interstate 5. You then turn right on Martin Way a short distance east.

RUTH BADER GINSBURG

New USPS Stamps for October 2023

October 2 Forever **Ruth Bader Ginsburg** WASHINGTON DC 20066

October 10 Forever Winter Woodland Animals
WOODLAND MI 48897



And those are the **last of the announced** USPS stamp releases for 2023.

## NASA: New US Postage Stamp Commemorates NASA's Asteroid Sample Delivery

By Nathan Marder - NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Md. https://www.nasa.gov/solar-system/new-us-postage-stamp-commemorates-nasas-asteroid-sample-delivery/

To help celebrate this engineering and scientific achievement, the U.S. Postal Service issued a commemorative stamp featuring an artist's impression of the sample capsule as it parachutes to Earth over its landing site on the Department of Defense's Utah Test and Training Range.

"OSIRIS-REx has already achieved so many mission firsts," said Lori Glaze, director of the Planetary Science Division at NASA Headquarters in Washington. "We are honored that our mission will also enjoy the spotlight of a postage stamp canvas."

Although OSIRIS-REx has already had many scientific accomplishments, at its heart, the mission's research goals circle around the sample delivery from Bennu. That influenced the Postal Service's decision to select the capsule's descent as the subject of the new stamp.



"The safe and successful return of a sample from the surface of an asteroid is the crowning moment of the program," said Dante Lauretta, principal investigator for OSIRIS-REx at the University of Arizona, Tucson. "From day one, it has been the single focus."

(A pane of 20 OSIRIS-REx commemorative stamps, released by the Postal Service on Sept. 22, 2023. Artwork highlights the mission's defining moments, including the sample capsule's final descent over the Department of Defense's Utah Test and Training Range.)

That being said, "There are these other aspects of the mission that are very important," said Antonio Alcalá, the Postal Service art director, aspects like mapping the asteroid's surface, targeting the ideal sample collection site, and retrieving the sample. So, to compensate for the small canvas size of an individual stamp, Alcalá decided to depict these other mission milestones in the full pane's accompanying artwork.

"It's a very nice visual shorthand," said Daniel Gallagher, a multimedia producer at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. Gallagher

helped orchestrate the stamp's design at an early stage. "Even if you knew nothing about this mission, you could look at that margin and get the gist of it."

As a member of the 2023 stamp class, OSIRIS-REx will share the spotlight with a collection celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Endangered Species Act and a tribute to the career of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the late U.S. Supreme Court justice.

By enabling scientists to study such well-preserved rocks and dust from an asteroid – which are older than the most ancient Earth rocks – OSIRIS-REx may help answer fundamental questions: Where did we come from? How did life originate? Why is Earth a habitable planet?

The material collected by OSIRIS-REx will be carefully curated and shared with scientists around the globe. A portion of the sample will also be preserved for future generations of researchers to study it with fresh insights and the latest technologies.

"At the end of the day, OSIRIS-REx's true impact is on that next generation," said Lauretta. "We've already trained so many leaders, broad thinkers, and visionaries that are coming out of this program. The payback to the nation is incalculable."

The value of the research OSIRIS-REx enables may be incalculable, as Lauretta said, but the OSIRIS-REx stamp on the other hand will always be equal in value to the current First-Class Mail 1 ounce price.