



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

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, May 8th, 7:30 PM

- **Program: APS Pick Books** - Global airmails, one book featuring Colombia and "C" countries and one book with a broader offering; 19th century US; US revenues; mint BWI; Cuba, mostly Castro era; France; Canada; Mozambique & Angola; US plate blocks (two books); Central Europe; PRC & China; Tasmania & Victoria; New Zealand, modern; Iran (Islamic Republic); Russia; India states; Bolivia and Paraguay, and Dahomey & French offices.
 - **Buy / Sell / Trade** - Trade, Sell, or Buy. You decide in which order.

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

2024 Club Officers

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Dates for our 2024 meetings (2nd Wednesday at the Everett PUD)

5/8, 6/12, 7/10, 8/14 BBQ, 9/11, 10/9, 11/13, 12/11 Holiday Dinner

President's Column

Steve LaVergne

Sno-King members will have 18 **American Philatelic Society circuit books** from which to add to their collections at the club's **May** meeting. The circuit books have arrived and feature the following areas:

Global airmails, one book featuring Colombia and "C" countries and one book with a broader offering; 19th century US; US revenues; mint BWI; Cuba, mostly Castro era; France; Canada; Mozambique & Angola; US plate blocks (two books); Central Europe; PRC & China; Tasmania & Victoria; New Zealand, modern; Iran (Islamic Republic); Russia; India states; Bolivia and Paraguay, and Dahomey & French offices.

Some highlights are: Denmark C10; USA 149; France 12a; Canada 14,17,20,22,23,24,27A,29; Austria C58; China 10; Tasmania 93 and France N26.

With this selection, the APS asked that we make our requests earlier than the three weeks advance notice we have been giving. This might mean that when we contemplate a meeting devoted to circuit books, we will request suggestions two meetings in advance.

One reminder: the club will apply a five-percent surcharge to each member's purchases. This will cover postage and other incidental charges.

As before, the club asks members to record each stamp purchased on slips which the club will provide. We ask three bits of information for each stamp selected. One is the six- or seven-digit number on the white sticker affixed to the cover of each book. The other two are the page and space numbers.

The APS recently logged its one-millionth circuit book. This explains why some books are six digits and others seven.

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Is it too early to think about **August**? The club did not reserve a meeting room this coming August because the **club picnic** takes place then. Over the years, club members have generously opened their homes and back yards for the annual picnic.

I have this sense that hosts from past years will not be in a position of holding this year's picnic. If I am wrong and there is a willing host on the club roster, please inform any club officer as soon as possible.

In the absence of some member's back yard being available, we will need to explore options. We could ask the Snohomish County PUD if our meeting room is available on the second Wednesday of August. We could have a restaurant meal or plan a potluck picnic in a public park. We could also dispense with any activity this August. I welcome suggestions.

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Lately, I have been able to read four Herman Herst Jr. books about his adventures in the stamp trade. A prolific writer, he wrote three of these books during his lifetime. A fourth book, a collection of essays, was published in 2016, some 17 years after his death.

Many current collectors may not recognize his name, but during his 60 years as a stamp dealer, he was a well-known in the hobby, largely because of his writings. He circulated a periodical, which he entitled Herst's Outbursts. After his death, he was enshrined in the Philatelic Hall of Fame, which is administered by APS.

The posthumous collection includes some accounts covered in his earlier works. One twice-told tale concerns a Park Avenue doctor who ordered a set of Zeppelins. Written 35 years apart, these accounts differ in details, including the outcome.

Herst mailed his buyer the three stamps and an invoice. Days later, he received a letter from the doctor's wife, who wrote, "This will teach you to send my husband stamps." She enclosed the three Zeppelins, each torn in half.

Herst called the doctor, who agreed to pay for the stamps. In the earlier account, the doctor accepted Herst's suggestion to use a post office box. In the later version, the doctor spurned that idea, opting instead for divorce.

This would have been before the days of no-fault divorce. Lacking a specific cause such as infidelity or abandonment, those seeking escape from an unhappy marriage often resorted to a catchall, "mental cruelty." If ripping up your spouse's Zeppelins isn't mental cruelty, then what is.

USPS Proposes Raising the Prices of 1st Class Stamps to 73 cents

If the U.S. Postal Service gets its way, the price of a first-class stamp will go up for the fourth time in less than two years.

The USPS is proposing hiking the cost of a first-class stamp to 73 cents, or roughly 7% on all forms of postage.

If approved, the plan, which was announced on Tuesday, will raise the price of metered 1-ounce letters to 69 cents, international ounce-size letters and postcards to \$1.65 and domestic postcards to 56 cents.

The proposal has been sent to the independent Postal Regulatory Commission for final approval. If the commission signs off, the new prices will take effect in July.

The complete story can be found here:

<https://abcnews.go.com/US/ridiculous-usps-proposes-raising-prices-1st-class-stamps/story?id=109079925>

New USPS issues for May 2024

Only one this month:

May 15 Forever **Ansel Adams**

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, CA 95389

