



# 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  
Snohomish County PUD  
2320 California Street



QR code - you can use your Smartphone  
to go to the club's website

Volume 29

October 2024

Number 9

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

Everett Meeting  
Wednesday, **October 9<sup>th</sup>**, 7:30 PM

- **Nominations** for club officers, picking a **holiday meal** location, and general socializing to show your interesting finds, admire others' acquisitions, and, naturally, **buy and sell** so bring along your items for the marketplace.

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

### 2024 Club Officers

<b>President:</b>	Steve LaVergne 206-361-3774;	<a href="mailto:stampingsteve@gmail.com">stampingsteve@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vice President:</b>	George Wanaski 425-224-4178;	<a href="mailto:gwanaski@gmail.com">gwanaski@gmail.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Kurt D Lange, 425-343-7435;	<a href="mailto:kurt.d.lange@gmail.com">kurt.d.lange@gmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Robin Leaden, 206-365-1794;	<a href="mailto:robinleaden@netscape.net">robinleaden@netscape.net</a>
<b>Program Chairman:</b>	(available position)	
<b>Webmaster &amp; Newsletter Editor:</b>	Kurt D Lange, 425-343-7435;	<a href="http://sno-kingstampclub.freehostia.com/">http://sno-kingstampclub.freehostia.com/</a> <a href="mailto:kurt.d.lange@gmail.com">kurt.d.lange@gmail.com</a>

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

10/9, 11/13, 12/11 Holiday Dinner

## President's Column

Steve LaVergne

The club will address two important pieces of business at its **October** meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, October 9, at the Snohomish PUD building. Highlighting the agenda will be nomination of officers for 2025 and discussion of the club's annual holiday meal.

There will be **nominations** for the club's four elective offices, which are president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer. So far, I have no indication as to whether incumbents are willing to stand for re-election. As president, I will express my willingness to remain in office.

Elections will take place in November. Typically, elections are uncontested. However, if you believe any position is in need of a fresh outlook, you are invited to nominate yourself or any other member, preferably one who has expressed willingness to hold office.

We will be open for discussion of where to hold the **annual holiday meal**, which will be mid-day on December 11th. Club members may decide to hold it at the Buzz Inn on Everett's Evergreen Way, which was last year's location. Some others may prefer to hold it elsewhere.

In any case, this matter will be open for discussion. It isn't necessary to make the decision in October. It can be deferred to November. Nonetheless, I will be open to entertain a motion to decide this matter at the upcoming meeting.

I have arranged no program for October. Once these two matters have been dispensed with, members will be free to **showcase their prize items, admire others' acquisition, not to mention buy and sell.**

\* \* \* \* \*

I hope many of you were able to enjoy the two-day **SeaPex** bourse in September. For the second straight year, SeaPex was a two-day bourse, rather than the customary three-day nationally accredited show. In 2023, when the SeaPex organization announced it would not organize a show, dealer Michael Jaffe organized the two-day show. Jaffe also organized this year's show.

Some 11 dealers offered their wares at the show. Of those, two will probably not be at whatever form SeaPex takes in 2025. I heard two dealers announce that they are gearing for retirement.

This year's show featured one striking improvement over the 2023 event. Show visitors were able to do their shopping in sturdy, comfortable chairs, a contrast with the hard-backed flimsy chairs provided in 2023. Two attendees escaped serious injury when the chairs collapsed.

Given that many in attendance are portly and elderly, one need not be a lawyer to appreciate that continued use of last year's chairs is asking for a costly lawsuit.

Meanwhile, the SeaPex organization which organized shows prior to 2023 is seeking to expand its volunteer base in order to resume the traditional show, come 2025.

\* \* \* \* \*

At SeaPex, I selected several unpriced boxes of covers and waited for the dealer to examine them and state his price. While waiting, I heard him tell another customer this would be his next-to-last show, so he expected to offer plenty of discounts.

Taking him at his word, I counter-offered 75 percent of the price he quoted. I got my discount.

\* \* \* \* \*

I heard a complaint about the Scott Classic catalog, which lists stamps issued through 1940. Although cutting off its listings at 1940, the catalog will make an exception in order to preserve a certain continuity. An example is British empire. The listings go through 1952, when King George VI's reign ended.

Why not Manchukuo, somebody asked. Why not, for the sake of continuity, add the stamps this Japanese puppet state issued between 1941 and 1944.

\* \* \* \* \*

A bridge buddy observed me reading a Herman Herst book about his adventures as a stamp dealer. This inspired the bridge buddy to relate an amusing story related to our hobby.

An early issue of Sports Illustrated reported on a philatelic expo held in pre-Castro Cuba. This event attracted numerous high-rolling American philatelists. At first, these visitors were perplexed when their hosts implored them to attend a local racetrack.

After repeated entreaties, many American collectors relented and spent an afternoon taking in Cuban ponies. Many noticed that each race featured a mount with a name lifted from the lexicon of philately. It dawned on some that Cuban officials had this curious premonition that any horse with a philatelically-themed name was destined to win its race.

So, they bet accordingly. Now, I am making names up. Their bets paid off handsomely when Mint Never Hinged won the third race, Revenue Cancel outpaced the competition in the fourth, and Correo Aereo led the field in the fifth. And so on.

Some lucky bettors covered their airfare and hotel bills with their winnings. Some Cuban spectators noticed what was happening and strived to place their bets on the anointed unguilate.

---

***Yep! - your newsletter editor was feeling lazy...  
so here's an A.I. generated article about the hobby.***

**Philately**, the study and collection of postage stamps, is a fascinating hobby with deep historical roots. One of the most interesting aspects of philately is that it often reflects major world events, art, and culture through the designs of stamps. For instance, during times of war or national celebration, stamps have been used as propaganda tools or symbols of national pride.

A fun fact: The world's first postage stamp, the **Penny Black**, was issued in the UK in 1840. It featured an engraving of Queen Victoria and was revolutionary because it standardized postal rates regardless of distance. This small stamp marked the beginning of modern postal systems!

Philately isn't just about collecting stamps; it's also about understanding their significance, from postal history and rare printing errors to the stories of the countries and cultures they represent. Some stamps, especially those with printing mistakes like the famous **Inverted Jenny** (a U.S. airmail stamp featuring an upside-down biplane), can be worth millions of dollars today.

Building on the fascinating world of philately, there's even more to uncover beyond stamps themselves. For instance, collectors often dive into **postal history**, which includes studying postmarks, covers (envelopes), and the routes mail traveled. This can reveal unique insights into communication networks, colonial history, and international relations. For example, **postal routes** from the 19th century give a glimpse into how empires, like the British and French, connected their far-reaching colonies.

One intriguing area is **thematic philately**, where collectors focus on specific subjects represented on stamps. Some might collect stamps related to space exploration, wildlife, famous personalities, or world heritage sites. Others pursue **cinderella stamps**, which are stamps or labels that look like regular postage but were never used for official postal services. These can include charity stamps, propaganda labels, or tax stamps.

Another fascinating aspect is **philatelic errors**—often called **freaks and oddities** in the community. These include stamps with color shifts, printing misalignments, or design mistakes, making them rare and highly desirable. The **Treskilling Yellow**, a Swedish stamp mistakenly printed in yellow instead of the usual green, became one of the rarest and most valuable stamps in history.

Philately also plays a role in diplomacy. Some countries have issued **commemorative stamps** to honor international partnerships, peace treaties, or landmark global events. For example, stamps were issued to celebrate the **Universal Postal Union**, which standardized international mail services in 1874.

The blend of history, art, and rarity makes philately a rich and diverse hobby where every stamp tells a unique story.

## New USPS issues for October 2024

October 3 Forever **Thank You Healthcare Community**

WASHINGTON, DC 20066



October 10 Forever **Winter Whimsy**

PARK CITY, UT 84060