



# 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  
camera to go to the club's website

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

Everett Meeting  
Wednesday, July 9th, 7:30 PM

**\*\*\*No newsletter in August - The club lunch details are on the next page for Noon on August 13th**

- **APS Circuit Books for the July meeting** - American Philatelic Society "pick books". The books haven't arrived yet so there is no specific list to provide.

*\*\*\* We are still assembling a master list of what stamps, types, categories, countries, interests, etc. each member has.  
Email back to Kurt with your list or bring a list to a meeting \*\*\**

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

## 2025 Club Officers

<b>President:</b>	Steve LaVergne 206-361-3774;	<a href="mailto:stampingsteve@gmail.com">stampingsteve@gmail.com</a>
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**Meeting dates for 2025 (2nd Wednesday at the Everett PUD)**  
7/9, 8/13 Lunch gathering, 9/10, 10/8, 11/12, 12/10 Holiday Dinner

## President's Column

Steve LaVergne

The club is scheduled to pore over a selection of American Philatelic Society circuit books when it meets **July 9th**. As of this writing, I have yet to receive these books, so I am unable to provide the usual listing.

So far, the club has done well with APS circuit books. Club members purchased an aggregate of \$360 from the May selection. This put the club well over the \$200 threshold for exemption from APS's five-percent surcharge. This surcharge is separate from the five-percent surcharge levied by the club, this to cover return postage.

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At the June meeting, the club voted to hold its August meeting as a luncheon gathering at the **V-Star Cafe**, a Chinese buffet at 7th Ave SE / SE Everett Mall Way in Everett. This will take place at **noon Wednesday, August 13th**.

Normally, the club holds its annual picnic in August, usually at the home of a member. This year, no member was in a position to volunteer to host the event.

Many members should be familiar with the V-Star, which hosted two holiday meals. One advantage to lunching at a buffet restaurant is that members won't be subject to a lengthy wait for their meals, an inconvenience which detracted from a recent club luncheon.

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Not having any hands-on-stamps event in August, the club will not issue an August newsletter. The newsletter will return in September, hopefully with a listing of September's circuit books.

\* \* \* \* \*

The club recently received a donation, consisting mostly of US stamps from the 20th century. It includes a tremendous amount of mint US, which the club can use for postage. There are first-day covers. There are some from the 1930s, which may interest some club members.

One intriguing item is a first-day cover of the Philippines 1934 baseball set. I believe this was the world's first issue celebrating this truly American sport.

I plan on bringing the more interesting FDCs to the July meeting, where they will be available for sale to members.

\* \* \* \* \*

This is a story of a cost-conscious terrorist, whose diabolic plan was foiled by his attempt to save pennies on each parcel he mailed to his intended victim. Each parcel contained a charge of dynamite, blasting caps and a vial of sulfuric acid.

Each parcel was rigged so that tearing the top of the package would shatter the vial, whose sulfuric contents would drip onto the blasting caps and ignite the dynamite. The New York press wrote that each charge was powerful enough it could “blast out the entire side of the County-City building.”

One package, bearing the return address of a Manhattan department store, was delivered to the office of Seattle Mayor Ole Hanson April 27, 1919. With Hanson out of state, an office aide took delivery of the package. Luckily, he opened it upside-down, so the acid dripped harmlessly to the floor.

Not so lucky was a domestic servant, who worked in the home of a U.S. senator from George. She survived, but the explosion left her with both hands amputated.

Though these events took place thousands of miles apart, they had something in common. The word, “novelty” was stamped on the wrapping paper of both packages. This was evidently an attempt to qualify for the lowest parcel post rate of 12 cents, which applied to soaps, medicines, canned goods and certain other items.

Charles Caplan read about these incidents after midnight as he rode a commuter train home from his postal clerk job. When he read about the “novelty” stamping, he jumped off the train and took the next train to his post office.

He had set aside 16 packages, all stamped “novelty,” intending to have a manager decide whether they truly qualified for the 12-cent rate. He and the night superintendent called police. It took a fire department bomb expert six hours to dismantle one bomb. Detectives marveled at the skillful construction and deadly potential of each device.

New York Police alerted police agencies and post offices around the nation. Some 36 packages were intercepted before any deadly delivery could be made. The intended targets were a who’s who of government and commerce. Among them were John D. Rockefeller, J. P. Morgan, Oliver Wendell Holmes and Attorney-General Mitchell Palmer.

One wonders how this would have played out had the bomb-maker shelled out a few extra pennies for a realistic parcel post rate. The potential carnage could have devastated the nation’s psyche. The bomber, who was never identified, and kindred anarchists believed that dynamite was a fitting response to what they viewed as the oppression of normal Americans.

What they overlooked is that Rockefeller and J. P. Morgan didn’t open packages addressed to them. If the bombs accomplished their purpose, the victims would have been servants and clerks whom the anarchists professed to champion.

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***Phil Lau (who gave last month’s presentation on UV Tagging) wanted members to know that he would be bringing his UV lamps to the next few meetings if anyone wanted to check their collections for tag stamps or tag errors.***

## July 2025 USPS new stamp issues

July 18 Forever **Schooner** (Stamped Card)  
CRYSTAL, MN 55429 (Minnesota Stamp Expo)



July 23 Forever **Benjamin Franklin**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20066



July 23 Forever **250 Years of Delivering**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20066

August 1 Forever **SpongeBob SquarePants**  
NEW YORK, NY 10199



August 14 Forever **Boston 2026**  
SCHAUMBURG, IL 60194 (Great American Stamp Show)

August 16 Forever **Luna Moth** (Non-machineable Surcharge)  
SCHAUMBURG, IL 60194 (Great American Stamp Show)

