



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



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, **May 13th, 7:30 PM**

- **APS pick books**

No details yet for the APS circuit books for this month. Bring your cash/checkbooks and see what surprises arrive.

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

2026 Club Officers

President:	Steve LaVergne 206-361-3774;	stampingsteve@gmail.com
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2026 Meeting Dates (2nd Wednesday at the Everett PUD)

5/13, 6/10, 7/8, 8/12 BBQ, 9/9, 10/14, 11/4-NOTE that November is one week early,
12/9 Holiday Lunch

President's Column

Steve LaVergne

American Philatelic Society circuit books will highlight the club's **May** meeting. I was hoping to preview the areas covered by the books, but as of this writing, they have not arrived.

Members aggregated about \$250 in purchases from the circuit books available at our March meeting. While this is well above the \$200 threshold for avoiding a surcharge, it was disappointing. Usually, members spend twice that on the typical circuit book mailing.

This can be partly explained by the substandard quality of the material in the March selection. One book was devoted entirely to overpriced "fancy cancels." Half of another book consisted of canceled-to-order Djibouti.

Some APS members who submit these books seem to think we're all beginning collectors. Many stamps they offer for sale could be found in the packets I bought with my paper route earnings.

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Upon receiving an updated club roster, I decided to identify where we come from. Given that we meet in Everett, it seems surprising that Seattle is home to more members than any other community in Snohomish County and northern King County.

Eight of us live in Seattle. That includes me and my lady friend Renee, who is a paid member even though she has never licked a stamp hinge.

Everett has the second-most members with six. Next highest are Lynnwood, Edmonds and Mountlake Terrace, with three each. Monroe, Lake Forest Park, Woodinville, Snohomish, Shoreline, Bothell and Arlington are homes to two members each.

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During my two-day attendance at the recent PIPEX show in Portland, I was impressed by the large number of women collectors present. When seated at one dealer's table, I counted seven women poring over that dealer's offerings.

If our hobby survives, much credit will be due to the women who became serious collectors.

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Some meetings ago, I made a presentation on PostCrossing, which uses postcards to connect people around the globe. So while attending PIPEX, I picked up a PostCrossing instructional pamphlet prepared by a Portland woman active in the postcard exchange.

Here's how it works. You send a postcard to a person whose address is provided to you. Then, your address will be provided to another participant who then sends you a postcard. This cycle repeats itself as long as you remain active.

The brochure tells you how to start. You sign up on www.Postcrossing.com. You then create a profile, consisting of personal information, your interests and your preferred postcard designs. Then, you request an address.

Postcrossing will then send you an address of another participant. Each address comes with a two-letter, eight-numeral ID, which enables Postcrossing to track the movement of postcards. You send that participant a postcard. Upon receipt, your addressee will log the ID into the Postcrossing website. That enables Postcrossing to send your address to another participant. When you receive a postcard, you will log it in.

Postcrossing is truly international. Russia has more members than any other country. Germany, the Netherlands, PR China and Taiwan are heavily represented. Most foreign participants affix interesting pictorials and commemoratives, spurning common workhorse definitives.

Postcrossing is pretty much a one-off deal. You send a postcard to a far-off recipient, with no expectation that that participant will reply. The website features a forum enabling Postcrossers to connect with one another.

The Portland woman who authored the manual participates in meetings of Portland-area Postcrossers.

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Upon receiving the Seattle Times "Best in the West" compilation, we couldn't wait to find out which stamp store readers voted number one. Alas, stamp stores were not among the 298 categories rated.

The categories ranged from gambling meccas to medical services to specialized lawyers to automotive services. You name it. "Best in the West" listed the top three in each category.

There was a category for gold and rare coins. However, the three highly-rated shops do not cater to the true collector. Instead, they invited people to sell such items as that wedding ring which served as a disturbing reminder of too many years with some world-class jerk.

I know of five stamp shops in Puget Sound country. If readers were invited to rate stamp stores, I wonder which two would have been excluded.

"Best in the West" was a collaboration of the Seattle Times and a regional casino. Enterprises associated with this casino were heavily represented among those highly rated. The Times stated that more than 359,000 ballots were submitted by more than 216,000 people. Methinks ballot-stuffing skewed the results.

(Newsletter Editor's Note: on the following pages are a re-print of a list from last year which shows where the brick and mortar stamp stores are in this region.)

May new releases from USPS

May 5 Forever **Route 66**
Route 66
PHOENIX, AZ 85026



May 14 Forever **Bald Eagles**
Bald Eagles
WABASHA, MN 55981

May 23 Forever **Treasures of Revolutionary Era**
treasures of Rev. War
BOSTON, MA 02205



May 25 Forever **American Bison**
American Bison
BOSTON, MA 02205

May 26 Forever **Post-Crossing**
Post-Crossing
BOSTON, MA 02205



May 27 Forever **International Peace**
International Peace
BOSTON, MA 02205



May 28 Forever **North American Soccer**
North American Soccer
BOSTON, MA 02205

We already have a date set for next year's stamp show hosted by our club -
mark it on your calendar - **Saturday, March 6th, 2027**

A List of Actual "Brick and Mortar" Stamp Stores in our Region

Please contact them first before stopping by to confirm hours, etc.

- Aurora Stamps
21016 76th Ave W, **Edmonds**, WA 98026
- Bel-Kirk Stamp Coin & Comics
11232 120th Ave NE Suite 107, **Kirkland**, WA 98033
- D.K. (Dick Keiser) Enterprise
10 NE Silver Pine Dr. #110, **Bremerton**, WA 98311
- Uptown Stamp Show
2373 NW Westover Rd, **Portland**, OR 97210
- The Stamp and Coin Place
(formerly in Bellingham?) 405 S 1st St, **Mt Vernon**, WA 98273
- Vintage Postcards and Stamps
5202 N Market St, **Spokane**, WA 99217
- Seattle Coin and Stamp
725 Pike St #6, **Seattle**, WA 98101

(Know of any others not included in this list? Please let me know - Kurt L., Newsletter Editor)

Stamp Shows Spring/Summer 2026

May 9

Vancouver Coins, Stamps & Collectibles Show
Nikkei National Museum and Cultural Centre
6688 Southoaks Crescent

Burnaby CANADA V5E 4M7

9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Admission \$3. (Free for age 16 and under if accompanied by an adult).

May 23-30

Boston 2026 World Expo
Boston Convention & Exposition Center,

Boston, MA

Website: www.boston2026.org

June 5-6

SOPEX

Stamp show and bourse

First United Methodist Church 607 West Main

Medford, OR 97501

Friday 11:00-5:00; Saturday 10:00-4:00

Southern Oregon Philatelic Society

Eight dealers; Judged exhibits;

<https://sopex.info/>

July 18-19

Stamp, Postcard, and Paper: Summer Show

Kent Commons Community Center

525 4th Ave. N

Kent, WA 98032

Sat.: 10-5, Sun. 10-4

Sponsored by Evergreen Stamp Club

<https://evergreenstampclub.com/>

Sept

SEAPEX Tukwila Community Center

12424 42nd Avenue South

Tukwila WA 98168

Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.;

Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

SEAPEX - Seattle Philatelic Exhibition - Home Page (seapexshow.org)

Bourse

Free Admission -- Free Parking