



The Greater

Philadelphia Stamp & Collector's Club

Founded 1935

American Philatelic Society - Chapter 18 ■ American Air Mail Society - Chapter 18
Successor to the Philadelphia Stamp Club and The Collector's Club of Philadelphia

February, 2019 Newsletter - Volume 68, Issue 2

Next Meeting - Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Our Featured Topic

for February

MASONIC PHILATELY



This topic ties my two avocations together. I will display various philatelic way of doing this from postmarks, Masons on stamps to special events.

Mike Epstein,

Up Coming Shows & Times

- March 2, **Westfield Stamp Show**, Municipal Bld
425 East Broad St., Westfield, N.J
- March 23-24 **Merchantville Stamp Club Bourse**,
Martin Luther Chapel School gym,
4100 Terrace Ave., Pennsauken, N.J.
- April 6 **SPRINGPEX**, Robert E. Lee High Sch
6540 Franconia Rd., Springfield, VA.
- April 13 **Merchantville Stamp Club Bourse**,
Martin Luther Chapel School gym,
4100 Terrace Ave., Pennsauken, N.J.
- April 13 **DELPEX**, Nur Shrine Center Temple,
198 S. DuPont Highway, New Castle, Del.
- April 26-27 **LANCOPEX**, 1383 Arcadia Rd,
Lancaster PA
- May 4 **Merchantville Stamp Club Bourse**,
Martin Luther Chapel School gym,
4100 Terrace Ave., Pennsauken, N.J.
- May 31-June 2 **ASDA StampShow**, The Watson Hotel,
West 57th Street, New York, N.Y.
- June 7-9 **NAPEX**, McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corner,
7920 Jones Branch Dr., McLean, VA.

Message from the Pres.

Hello stampers. Wish I could be with you for the February meeting, but will be in Florida the whole month.

Attended the Sarasota show the first weekend of the month. It's one of the best shows going with spectacular exhibits and a powerful bourse. All I did was get a bunch of discount postage to make the new 55c rate. The second and third ounces are actually cheaper now at 15c rather than 21c.

Stay warm friends; Punxsutawney Phil predicts an early spring .



Steve

Awards & Recognition



Mark Schwartz was invited to talk about Boston Colonial Postal History at the Royal Philatelic Society in London. His presentation on February 7th was attended by 110 members and guests.



2019 Meeting Dates

All Tuesdays - All start at 7:30 pm - All at the Giant

2019

Feb. 19th MAR. 19th Apr. 16th
May 21st JUN. 18th

'Relationships are a lot like algebra. Have you ever looked at your X and wondered Y?'

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Stamp Club Meeting Address

GPS and CC

Giant Supermarket
Community Rm,
315 York Rd.
Willow Grove, PA 19090.

Stamp Club Address

GPS and CC

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Minutes From November's Meeting

Steve Washburne took over as president this month.

PROGRAM: David Stevenson talked about the Great American Series from 1980-1999 including many variations in shade, perforation and tagging.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: We have 47 members. We are waiting for several to get their dues in for 2019. One member has dropped out.

Former president, Rich Majerick, is still not very well and a card was signed to go out to him .

TREASURER'S REPORT: Vince sent in a report in his absence. We have \$3,935.57 in the account.

NEW BUSINESS: We received a request from the National Postal Museum for a donation. We decided to table the request until next month when we will be able to find out details from our Treasurer about past

donations to the museum.

Steve commented on Ed's article in the Jan. newsletter said that he sympathizes with him on buying stamps on eBay, the length of time it takes to get them expertized and then being unable to get refunds for fakes because it took longer than the 30 days allowed. Steve said that 2 months was normal for expertizing because stamps must be seen by two people, therefore each stamp must be mailed out to experts twice. The stamp issue was also one of the trickiest to expertize. Ed pointed out that eBay only guarantees for 30 day, and also that there are a lot of counterfeits being sold on eBay. More discussion on this topic and tips for buyers followed. Steve thanked Ed for bringing this to the attention of the membership.

There was no Old Business or time for Show & Tell this month.

Respectfully submitted by *Letty Moon*

DELPEX 2019

STAMP SHOW & BOURSE

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019 • 10 AM - 5 PM

**NUR SHRINE CENTER, 198 SOUTH DUPONT HIGHWAY
NEW CASTLE, DE 19720**

US, Foreign & Topical Exhibits • Show Cancel • USPS Substation
21 Dealer Bourse • Free Appraisals

400-Lot Bid Board Auction
Closes at 3:30 PM (On-line
Catalog 3 Weeks Before Show)
Door Prizes on ½ hour.
Raffle • Free Stamps for Kids.

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OUR DOOR PRIZE
DRAWINGS**



**FREE
ADMISSION**

NUR SHRINE CENTER:
DuPont Hwy (US 13 & 40N,
0.1 mile north of US 13/40
Junction, 0.9 miles south of
Hare's Corner (Del 273)

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'Money talks. but all mine ever says is good-bye.'

2019 stamps - (v. 5)

all issues “forever” unless noted otherwise – rates increase January 27, 2019;

This version complete as of February 02, 2019.

= *change since previous version.*

- *date assigned or changed*

As usual, dates, subjects, and formats are tentative and subject to change.

Date	Scott #	Issue	
Jan 10	5339	Love: Hearts Blossom, single, PSA pane 20.	
Jan 17	53	Lunar New Year (Boar), single, PSA pane 12.	
Jan 27	53	Uncle Sam’s Hat, Additional Ounce Special Stamp, (15c), single, PSA coil 100.	
Jan 27	53	\$25.50 Bethesda Fountain (American Landmarks Series) EXPRESS, single, PSA pane 4.	
Jan 27	53	\$7.35 Joshua Tree (American Landmark Series) PRIORITY, single, PSA pane 4.	
Jan 27	U-698?	\$7.35 Joshua Tree PRIORITY Stamped Envelope	
Jan 27	53	U.S. Flag, single, 4 designs, PSA DS booklet 20, PSA coil 100 – 2 printers	###
?		U.S. Flag Stamped Envelope,	
Jan 27	53	70c California Dogface Butterfly (2-oz rate), single, PSA pane 20	
?		35c Coral Reefs (post card rate) 4 designs, pane 20, coil 100.	
Jan 27		2c, 3c, 5c, 10c varieties of Fruit Series to be released in 3K rolls	###
Jan 28	53	Gregory Hines (Black Heritage) single, pane 20.	
Feb 15		Cactus Flowers, 10 designs, ds pane 20.	
Feb 22		Alabama Statehood, single, pane 20.	#
Mar 22		(bulk mail) Star Ribbon, 1 design, pane 20, coil 10K.	###
Apr 02		Marvin Gaye (Music Icon), single, pane 16.	
Apr 10		P.O. Murals, 5 designs, pane 10	#
Apr 23		(tennis champ) Maureen Brinker, 1 design	###
May 10		Transcontinental Railroad, 150 anniversary, 3 designs, pane 18.	###
		Battleship USS Missouri, single, pane 20.	
		Wild & Scenic Rivers, 12 designs, pane 12.	
		\$25.00 Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Stamp Wood Duck & Decoy	
		Walt Whitman (3 oz rate), single 85c	
		Frogs, 4 design, ds pane 20.	
		State & County Fairs, 4 designs, panoramic group	
		Woodstock, 50th anniversary, single	
		Winter Berries, 4 designs, single,	
		Military Working Dogs, 4 designs, booklet 20.	###
		(artist) Ellsworth Kelly, 10 designs, pane 20.	###

Future possibles, previously announced, never released, status uncertain:

James Brown, Johnny Carson, Steve Jobs, Baskets, Distinguished Airmen, Five Fishes, Graphic Design, Legends of Hollywood, PTSD semi-postal. Likely: President George H. W. Bush



Grills.

The months that follow, the "Learning Experience" will highlight this complete area of US Stamp information.

The Classic Collector

By Peter Mosiondz, Jr.

Grills — Learning to Know Them Part 2

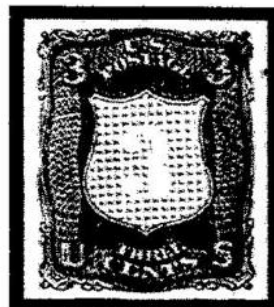
The whole idea behind grilling was that it would break the fibers of the paper to such an extent that the cancelling ink would soak into this broken paper in such a way as to render cleaning the stamp impossible. This breaking of the fibers, by the way, is not to be confused with actually breaking the paper itself so as to create a hole, as one might think when he ponders over punched cancellations, especially those on Revenues.

For the historically inclined, the United States Patent Office awarded patent No. 70,147 to Charles F. Steel of Brooklyn, New York on October 22, 1867. The Brookman book referred to in our first installment gives detailed excerpts from those original patent papers along with Steel's illustrations. This makes for some interesting insight. It is doubtful, though, that Steel had completed his grilling device at the time that he applied for his patent. Apparently it was more theory than tested machinery.

There were several experiments with grills and one of the first ones consisted of a design of small size, intended to replace the central portion of the stamp, which was in the form of a small shield within which is a raised, colorless numeral 3 (photo). The shield area, with the exception of the numeral, is grilled. The frame design is that of the 3¢ Washington of the 1861-1866 Issue. A rare piece.

In all there were dozens of experimental and essay grills, some of which included designs of a cross and that of a star for the grilled areas. The experimentation lasted for a good part of 1867 until such time as the Post Office was content to issue the first grilled stamps for sale to the public.

Getting to the identification aspects of Grills, one often hears the terminology "Points Up" or "Points Down". Points Up refers to the embossing being from the bottom side of the stamp paper so that the raised pyramidal shapes are on the face side. Points Down means the opposite.



Grills are further identified by letters of the alphabet and it is widely believed that they were issued in this order: A, B, C, D, Z, E and F for the 1867-1868 printings, then G for the 1869 Pictorials and H and I for the National Issue, 1870-71.

It is likely that the A, B and C Grills were made one sheet at a time. The others may well have been produced this way too, but more likely were grilled up to five sheets at a time, which helps to explain why these grills are extremely clear on some stamps and barely noticeable or very faint on others.

The letters used indicate a certain measurement, always in millimeters, of width and length of the raised area. It is best to measure from the underneath side of a stamp so that you are not confused by the stamp's design and or cancellation. The table below provides these grill counts.

Major Grill Classifications, as Listed in the Scott Catalogue (Horizontal measurements are given first)

"A" GRILL	Grill covers the entire stamp	Points Up
"B" GRILL	About 18 x 15 mm (22 x 18 points)	Points Up
"C" GRILL	About 13 x 16 mm (16 to 17 x 18 to 21 points)	Points Up
"D" GRILL	About 12 x 14 mm (15 x 17 to 18 points)	Points Down
"Z" GRILL	About 11 x 14 mm (13 to 14 x 18 points)	Points Down
"E" GRILL	About 11 x 13 mm (14 x 15 to 17 points)	Points Down
"F" GRILL	About 9 x 13 mm (11 to 12 x 15 to 17 points)	Points Down
"G" GRILL	About 9 1/2 x 9 1/2 mm (12 x 11 to 11 1/2 points)	Points Down
"H" GRILL	About 10 x 12 mm (11 to 13 x 14 to 16 points)	Points Down
"I" GRILL	About 8 1/2 x 10 mm (10 to 11 x 10 to 13 points)	Points Down

The "points" referred to above are the actual number of these tiny pyramids. Some people prefer to count in this fashion although it is much simpler to measure the overall grill area. Most perforation gauges have millimeter rules, so you should already have the necessary equipment.

Look For Part Three Of Ten In
March's Newsletter