

# THE GREATER PHILADELPHIA STAMP & COLLECTORS CLUB

Successor to the Philadelphia Stamp Club  
and The Collectors Club of Philadelphia, Founded 1885  
American Philatelic Society – Chapter 18



<https://www.gpscc.org>

March 2023

Volume 11, Issue 3

## NEXT MEETING

March 21, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Community Rooms  
GIANT Supermarket  
315 N. York Rd., Willow Grove, PA

### Dinner:

For those who would like to join us for dinner beforehand, we will meet at Willow Tavern, about a block from GIANT, at 5:00 p.m. for cocktails followed by dinner at 5:30 p.m.

210 York Rd., Willow Grove, PA

## IN THIS ISSUE

Item	Page
President's Message	1
Upcoming Events	2
March Program	3
Stamp-themed Comics Books!	4
February Meeting Minutes	5
Hitler is a Schickelgruber!	6
APS Summer Seminar	8
<b>CLUB SECRETARY NEEDED!</b>	<b>9</b>
Stamp-themed Plays and Movies	10



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Paul Miller



APS Stamp Store

HipStamp

Has this ever happened to you?

You are reviewing your wonderful stamp collection, but you have a few spots in your collection that are missing a coveted stamp (or coil, or plate block, or something else). Or, you have decided to expand your collection into a new area and want to jump start that part of your collection with some new purchases.

Where can you easily find some stamps that you might need?

Brick and mortar stamp stores are few and far between anymore. So, running out to your favorite stamp shop to chat with a dealer might not be a reality.

Maybe you want to buy some needed stamps from a trusted stamp dealer at an upcoming stamp show. But maybe the next stamp show is not for some time or is not close enough for you to travel to in the immediate future.

(Continued on page 4)

## FREE DUES FOR 2023 OFFERED FOR NEW MEMBERS!

We will continue to offer free membership to new members through 2023 thanks to the idea that came up last year from one of our members to encourage new stamp collectors to join the Club!

So now is a good time to spread the word to friends to try out a membership in an active local stamp club!

Contact any officer for more information.

## OFFICERS

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*Shows & Events*

Alan Warren

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## UPCOMING CLUB MEETINGS 2023

Apr 18 – May 16 – Jun 20 – Aug. 15 – Sept. 19  
– Oct. 17 – Nov. 21 – Dec.19 (Holiday Dinner)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### STAMP SHOWS

March 17-19 – Garfield-Perry March Party, Best Western Plus, 15471 Royalton Rd., Strongsville, Ohio 44136

April 1-2 – Springpex, John R. Lewis High School, 6540 Franconia Rd., Springfield, Va.

April 22 – DELPEX Show, Nur Temple Shrine, 198 S. DuPont Rd (Rte 13), New Castle, Del.

April 29 – Westfield Stamp Show, Municipal Building, 425 East Broad St., Westfield, N.J.

June 2-4 – NAPEX, McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Dr., McLean, Va.

### Make travel plans now!

**June 12-16** – [APS Summer Seminar](#), Bellefonte PA (see p. 8 of this newsletter)

**July 17-22** – [APS Volunteer Work Week](#), Bellefonte PA

**August 10-13** – [Great American Stamp Show](#), Cleveland, OH



### MARCH PROGRAM

Mike Wilson will present “Advertising Covers With Interesting Philatelic Features.”



### MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

There are no members to introduce this month. Please introduce the Club to your friends and family, share out website (<https://www.gpscc.org/>), and let a Club officer know of a place that would like to learn more about us (e.g., schools, libraries, senior centers, etc.).

### MISSING YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD FROM 1937-38?

Well, you can buy it back on [eBay](https://www.ebay.com) for just \$27.00!

### CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

If you haven't already done so, check out our new website! You can find it at <https://www.gpscc.org/>.

Spread the news – and the link!



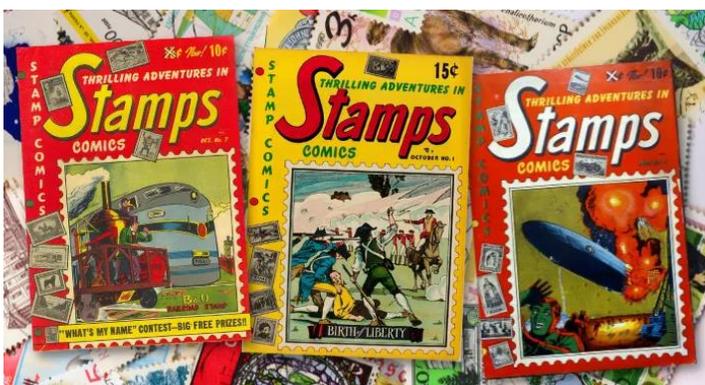
## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

A possible answer is to look online with the help of HipStamp ([www.hipstamp.com](http://www.hipstamp.com)). HipStamp is the leading marketplace devoted exclusively to stamp collecting. Founded in 2016, HipStamp was built for stamp collectors, by stamp collectors. HipStamp provides collectors with access to over 7.2 million listings (and growing!) and uses exclusive browse, search, and selling features which intuitively understand Country and Catalog Numbers.

Last month I referred to the American Stamp Dealers Association (ASDA). You can find many members of the ASDA selling online through HipStamp. That could be just the right alternative to finding the stamp you want.

Another great alternative is the recent partnership that was announced and officially launched between the American Philatelic Society (APS) StampStore and HipStamp. If you have not previously used the APS StampStore to find your stamps, you can now more easily find them through HipStamp. The APS noted that buyers using the new APS StampStore on HipStamp will be able to buy from multiple sellers from one location and all sellers are APS members who abide by the APS Code of Ethics. Many of the same great features from the APS StampStore will also be found on the HipStamp site. Here's the link: <https://www.hipstamp.com/store/aps-stamp-store>.

So, don't let those empty spaces in your collection remain. You deserve the opportunity to look for and find what you need. Use the online services that are available. You might find more than what you expected!



## ANYONE REMEMBER STAMP-THEMED COMIC BOOKS?

[Here's](#) an interesting read on a comic book series of the early 1950s that revolved around stamps! Anyone remember this or have copies?

**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 21, 2023, GPS & CC MEETING**

**Secretary's Report:** We have 52 members as of this date.

The APS is offering a \$5 membership promotion for Feb. New members will save \$5 when they join and current members earn \$5 to spend with the APS if they sponsor a new member.

Ned Case's widow, Mary Ann Case, sent us a note thanking the Club for making a donation to the APS in Ned's name. Scott English, Executive Director of the APS sent us a note thanking the Club for making donations to the APS in memory of two of our members who have passed away recently.

**Treasurer's Report:** We have \$4,717.03 in our account.

**Old Business:** Mike Wilson gave us an update on our new Club website, found at <https://www.gpscc.org>. He has posted a link to the website several places on the internet so others can find us. In addition to posting the information that you would expect on meetings, programs, and our newsletters, he has included old newsletters from many past years, including some very old ones dating to 1910.

Paul Miller reported that Scott English contacted him to let him know what a nice website he thinks we now have and to thank him for what we are doing for the APS. Paul said that it was good to know that Scott, who is also one of our members, does actually read our newsletter.

**New business:** Alan Warren made a motion to make a donation of \$100 to the Boston 2026 World Stamp Show. Two other societies have also made donations. The motion was seconded and passed but increased to \$250. Bruce Marsden said that he might know how to contact the show directors for making the donation.

Anne Gibby made a suggestion to work on creating stamp displays in Upper Dublin Public Library and others in order to get younger people interested in stamp collecting. She suggested beginning a series of exhibits in the fall which featured themes involving holidays or individual states and the many things that states are famous for, for example: famous people and athletes, state histories, biology, and events such as the Olympics. Mike Wilson said he would also be willing to do live presentations at the libraries. It was suggested that we might fund some of these displays through our treasury and also that information about stamps applicable to some of the state's themes could be found on lists maintained by the topical stamp societies.

Anne also suggested that we need to find a way to nudge more of our members to come out to monthly meetings.

Joe Gudonis thanked our new newsletter editor for the colorful printed version of the newsletter that he gets each month with lots of extra information in it.

(Continued on page 9)

## "HITLER IS A SCHICKELGRUBER!", 1943

by Mike Wilson

In addition to fighting on the land, in the air, and on the sea during World War II, the combatants also were engaged in a propaganda war to belittle their opponents and to boost morale on the home front. This cover (Figure 1) is an example of that effort.

The cachet pokes fun at Adolf Hitler and says to call "Him by His Right Name...Schickelgruber!" "Shickelgruber" certainly sounds more ridiculous than "Hitler" and that was the whole idea - make fun of him by using a ridiculous sounding name.

There was a wee bit of truth to calling Hitler "Schickelgruber. Hitler's father Alois was illegitimate, and for many years Alois bore his mother's last name, which was - you guessed it - Schickelgruber. However, by 1876, Alois laid claim to the last name of Hitler. Adolf was born in 1889 so his surname was Hitler and never Schickelgruber. But from a propaganda perspective, especially when the target is your enemy, the truth is of little importance; it's what sticks that matters.

This cover also celebrates the first anniversary of the "Women's Army Auxiliary Corps," or WAAC for short, which is obvious from the blue sticker on the front: "FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF OPENING ON JULY 20, 1942, OF FIRST WAAC TRAINING CENTER IN DES MOINES."

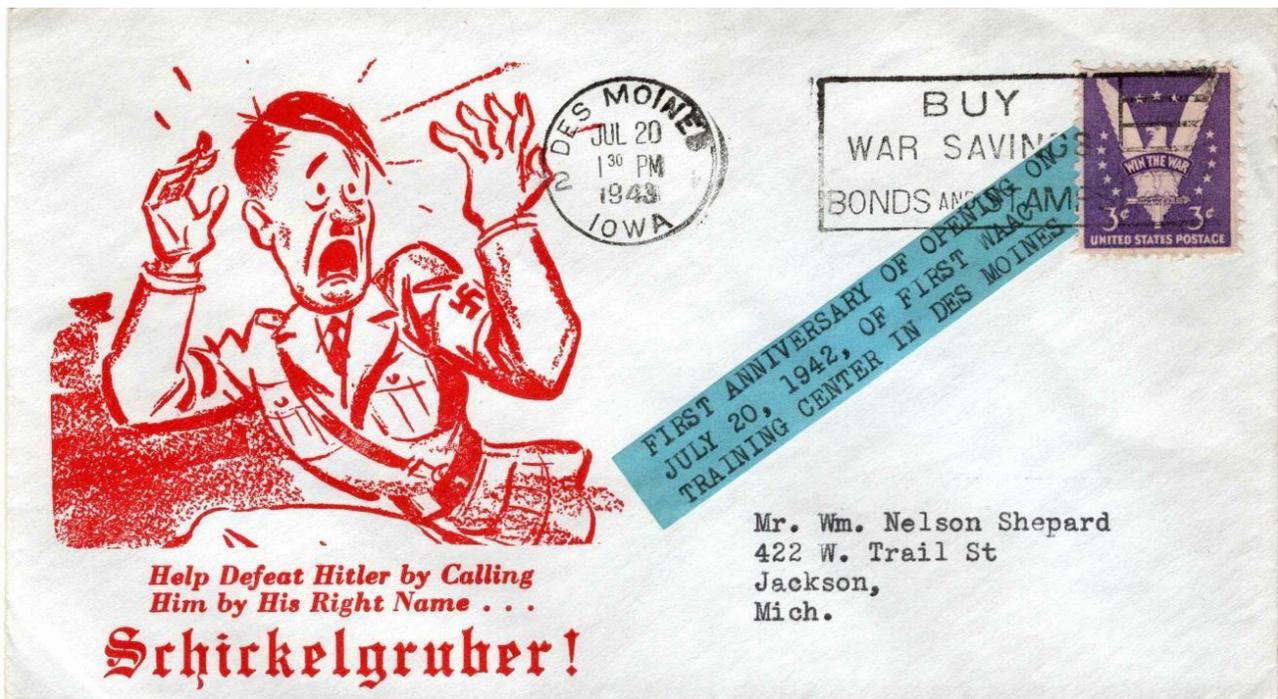


Figure 1

## “HITLER IS A SCHICKELGRUBER!” (CONTINUED)

Congress approved the creation of the WAAC on May 14, 1942, adopting a proposal introduced by Rep. Edith Nourse Rogers (Figure 2) of Massachusetts. Rep. Rogers, who was first elected to Congress in 1925 after the death of her husband and was just one of nine women in the 77th Congress, wanted to ensure that if American women served in support of the all-male US Army, they would do so with all the rights and benefits given to male soldiers. President Roosevelt signed the bill into law on May 15 and on May 16, Colonel Oveta Culp Hobby (Figure 3) was sworn in as the first WAAC director.



Figure 2- Rep. Rogers

Fort Des Moines in Iowa was chosen as the first WAAC training center, and it opened on July 20, 1942. After training, WAAC officers or enlisted personnel were assigned to clerical positions (e.g., switchboard operators and typists) or worked as mechanics, drivers, or cooks.



Figure 3- Col. Hobby

On July 1, 1943, Congress passed a bill dropping the word "Auxiliary." The now Women's Army Corps or WAC allowed women to serve overseas and gave them all the rank, privileges and benefits of their male counterparts.

This cover bears a Des Moines cancellation with the date of July 20, 1943, exactly one year after the WAAC training center opened in Des Moines and less than two weeks before the WAAC was converted to the WAC. The killer cancel is an encouragement to "BUY WAR SAVINGS BONDS and STAMPS."

The 3-cent stamp is US Scott #905 first issued on July 4, 1942. More than 20 billion of these stamps were printed, and it was the most used stamp during World War II.

If you receive *The United State Specialist*, check out the March 2023 issue for a great article on this stamp titled, "FDR and the 3-cent Win the War Stamp" by Paul Holland.

## APS SUMMER SESSION REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Register by March 31, 2023, for the APS Summer Seminar and save \$50! The agenda is fantastic, and you couldn't ask for a better venue – Bellefonte, Pennsylvania.

One of the instructors will be GPSCC member Bill Schultz. He'll teach a 2-day course titled, "How to Become a Better Exhibitor." That's worth the price of admission alone!

Go to [Summer Seminar](#) for complete information.

### 2023 Summer Seminar on Philately – Schedule at a Glance

Monday June 12, 2023	Tuesday June 13, 2023	Wednesday June 14, 2023	Thursday June 15, 2023
<b>General Session</b> Scott English - APS	<b>General Session</b> Dan Piazza– Smithsonian NPM	<b>General Session</b> William Gicker - USPS	<b>General Session</b> Charles Epting – H.R. Harmer Fine Stamp Auctions
<b>Major Courses (10)</b> Morning Sessions 9-11:30 Afternoon Sessions 12:30 – 3	<b>Major Courses (10)</b> Morning Sessions 9-11:30 Afternoon Sessions 12:30 – 3	<b>Major Courses in Session (9)</b> Morning Sessions 9-11:30 Afternoon Sessions 12:30 – 3	<b>Major Courses: (9)</b> Morning Sessions 9-11:30 Afternoon Sessions 12:30 – 3
<i>(4-Day) Stamp Technology</i> - Wayne Youngblood			
<i>(4-Day) Philatelic Research</i> - Dan Piazza			
<i>(4-Day) The Changing Shape of the Mail</i> - Diane deBlois & Robert Dalton Harris ( <i>2023 Distinguished Philatelists</i> )			
<i>Beyond the Scott Catalog (1)</i> - Ron Leshner		<i>Beyond the Scott Catalog (2)</i> - Ron Leshner	
<i>The Use of Technology &amp; Forensics in Expertizing</i> Garfield Portch		<i>The Use of Technology &amp; Forensics in Expertizing</i> Garfield Portch ( <i>Repeat Offering</i> )	
<i>Becoming a Better Exhibitor</i> – Bill Schultz		<i>Becoming a Better Exhibitor</i> - Bill Schultz ( <i>Repeat Offering</i> )	
<i>British Machins</i> - Steve McGill		<i>Bank Notes, Marketplace, &amp; Expertizing</i> - Clark Frazier	
<i>Washington Franklin Series (1): Identification</i> Guy Gasser & Steve Unkrich		<i>Washington Franklin Series (2): Expertizing</i> Guy Gasser & Steve Unkrich	
<i>History of Holocaust Philately</i> - Justin Gordon		<i>Poland</i> - Tom Bieniosek	
<i>British Postal History</i> - Tom Slemons			

## MINUTES (CONTINUED)

**Program:** President Paul Miller, presented a program which he called, "The Collection of Collections," which included examples of stamp album types, from his very first, the Harris Freedom Stamp Album United States, a simple inexpensive one acquired as a child, and many others which ranged from average quality to very sturdy, pricy, top of the line albums. He passed around examples of each and gave a bit of background on the collections and album manufacturers. He also pointed out the good and bad points of each type.



**Show & Tell & Discuss:** Ann Gibby showed us an old order/paid receipt from 1882 from her Uncle Len's collection, which featured a nice advertising illustration on it of a moving van – a wagon - with the business name on the side: Metropolitan Express & Van Co. She also suggested that we might enjoy a program sometime on fancy cancels, if anyone has a collection of them which they would like to show to us.

*Respectfully submitted by Letty Moon*

### CLUB SECRETARY NEEDED

Letty Moon is stepping down after ten years of service. Thank you for your continued service Letty!

**We are looking for a volunteer who could writeup minutes for our meetings and handle some communications with our members. The pay is great! Ok, it's zero, but think of the good karma you'll build up. And by the way, you don't need to be a female to apply.**

Contact any officer if you could volunteer, and we will give you all the help that you could need!

### CALL FOR AUTHORS!

Have something philatelic that you would like to share? Know of an article from another publication that you think others would like to read? Send Mike Wilson a note at [mwilson34407@gmail.com](mailto:mwilson34407@gmail.com), and he'll include it in an upcoming newsletter.

## STAMP-THEMED PLAYS AND MOVIES

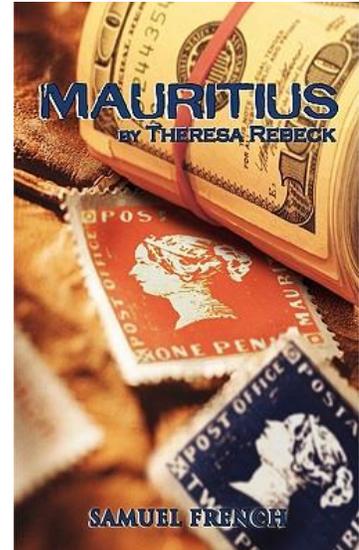
I recently saw that the Westport (Connecticut) Country Playhouse held a reading of the play *Mauritius* that will be directed by the play's author, Theresa Rebeck. Not being much of a Broadway goer, I had never heard of this play, but I should have since it is a stamp-themed play! It ran on Broadway for two months back in 2007 and pops up periodically at local theaters.

The title of the play refers to the famous "Blue Mauritius," among the rarest and most valuable stamps in the world. When two estranged half-sisters discover their recently deceased mom's stamp collection, one that may include these crown jewels for stamp collectors, a battle breaks out over what to do with them. Add in some dangerous collectors who would do anything to have these stamps and you get a thriller that keeps audiences on the edge of their seats.

What stamp-themed plays and movies do you know of? One of my favorites is *Charade* from 1963 with Cary Grant and Audrey Hepburn. And of course, there is *Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street* from 1947 when the Post Office is credited with proving that Kris Kringle is the one and only Santa Claus.

Drop me a note with your favorite, and I'll include it in the next newsletter.

Mike Wilson



## CLUB MAILING ADDRESS

Greater Philadelphia Stamp & Collectors Club  
P.O. Box 446  
Willow Grove, PA 19090-0446

And don't forget about our website:  
<https://www.gpscc.org/>

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

[Letter lost in 1916 delivered in London more than 100 years later](#),  
*The Guardian*, February 16, 2023.

[First digital-only issue of Linn's Stamp News released](#), *Linn's Stamp News*, February 21, 2023.