



# WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB NEWS

Volume 17 Issue 8  
March 2018

*Wilkinsburg Stamp Club is a member of APS #12293*

## Yoko Ono - Designs Denmark Stamp



**Philately** - is the study of stamps and postal history and other related items. It also refers to the collecting, research, and enjoyment, of stamps and other philatelic products.

**Contact Information;** Please update your email address so we can notify you quickly with any urgent matters.

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The world-famous artist Yoko Ono has designed postage stamps for the first time. She has created the motifs of two new “PostNord” Danish postage stamps, containing the strong, universal messages of “DREAM” and “SMILE”. She has chosen to design

simple but powerful messages in the form of “DREAM”, written in the middle of a yellow moon, and “SMILE” written in the middle of an orange sun. Finally, the stamps are encircled by the words “We’ll meet again” and “I love you”. The 84-year-old Yoko Ono,

(widow of the late John Lennon of the Beatles), has been a significant advocate of peace and human rights since the 1960s – topics that have been depicted in her music and art. In 2009, she received the Golden Lion at the Venice Biennale for her lifelong work, and in 2015 she got her own “One Woman Show” at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

The DREAM / SMILE stamps were issued in Denmark on January 2nd 2018 and are available as a so-called “souvenir sheet” with two stamps.

## Notable People on Stamps: Issued in Pittsburgh March 23, 2018



**Mr. Rogers Forever Stamp first-day ceremony in Pittsburgh PA**

**Fred McFeely Rogers (1928-2003)**  
Fans of *Mister Rogers Neighborhood* can look forward to a March 23, 2018 1st day of issue ceremony in Pittsburgh, Pa. The event will take place at 11 AM at the Fred Rogers Studio at WQED, 4802 Fifth Ave., in Pittsburgh, PA. List of participants has not been revealed but will include US Postmaster General Megan Brennan. Postal service also plan to show the ceremony live on it's USPS Facebook page. The forever stamp “Mister Rogers” shows him smiling in his familiar red cardigan

sweater, along with the hand puppet King Friday XIII presiding over his castle. The stamp honoring the beloved children's show host will be issued March 23rd 2018 in Pittsburgh, PA. Three days after what would have been his 90th birthday... 50 years after the show debut. Fans and neighbors are asked to wear their favorite sweaters in celebration of Mr. Rogers birthday March 20th. "Won't You Wear a Sweater Day" takes place annually on his birthday, March 20th.

**Club News**

**Elections!**

Election for two year term positions of Recording Secretary and President will be held March 11th 2018.

Installation will be in June 2018  
Nominations for president:  
Andy Novotny  
Nominations for Secretary:  
Danielle Weaver

Cliff Brown, author, gave a presentation on his homeland, Newfoundland, and their stamps, at the February 25th meeting that was enjoyed by all!

**Many thanks to Cliff !**

The program at the second meeting in March will be on Show Exhibits.

Trip to APS is Scheduled for March 16th, anyone wanting to go should meet with Danielle at the lower parking lot of the Churchill community center at 8 AM, Danielle may have seats available in her car, contact her

at dmm742000@yahoo.com or phone 412-727-1096

A trip, to the Canton Stamp Show is planned for Sunday March 4th, anyone wanting to go should meet with Danielle at the lower parking lot of the Churchill community center at 8 AM, Danielle may have seats available in her car, contact her at dmm742000@yahoo.com or phone 412-727-1096

**New Members**

**Welcome to...**

**Kenneth Dennis** of Burgettstown Kenneth collects US Plate Blocks and singles

**Ron Lombard** from Murrysville he collects US , Asian and Middle eastern stamps

Date for the 2019 WILKPEX is April 20th and 21st 2019.

**WILKPEX - WSC 68th Annual Stamp Show**

**SAT, APRIL 14, 2018**

**10 AM - 5 PM**

**SUN, APRIL 15, 2018**

**10 AM - 3 PM**

Sports Cachet & Cancellation

“World Famous

Satirical Souvenir Sheets”

Exhibits

Philatelic Phlea Market

50/50 Raffle

9 Dealers

*Engler Stamps*

*Geezers Tweezers*

*R J Associates*

*Mickey's Stamps*

*K2 Collectible Stamps*

*John's Philatelics*

*The Cover Connection*

*Richter Stamp Company*

*Tom's Stamps*

*(dealer information see website*

*at:www.wilksburgstampclub.com)*

There are still exhibit frames available for WILPEX

These are provided at no cost to the entrant. If interested in exhibiting, contact Andy Novotny at a meeting or email; novoand@hotmail.com

- with your name
- the title of your exhibit
- contact phone number
- exhibit description (25 words or less)
- number of frames you need.

Typical frame holds sixteen 8.5 x 11 sheets.

Deadline March 25th 2018

Entrants will be judged by popular vote at the show.

**Free Parking and Admission**  
Food available onsite

**Confederate Postage of the Civil War**

The postage stamps and postal system of the **Confederate States of America** carried the mail of the Confederacy for a brief period in American history. Early in 1861 when South Carolina no longer considered itself part of the Union and demanded that the U.S. Army abandon Fort Sumter, plans for a Confederate postal system were already underway. Indeed, the Confederate Post office was established on February 21, 1861; and it was not until April 12 that the American Civil War officially began, when the Confederate Army fired upon US soldiers who had refused to abandon the fort. However, the United States Post Office Department continued to handle the mail of the seceded states as usual during the first weeks of the

war. It was not until June 1 that the Confederate Post office took over collection and delivery, now faced with the task of providing postage stamps and mail services for its citizens.

One of the first things done to establish the Confederate Post Office was to appoint John H. Reagan (1818–1905) to Postmaster General, this was done by Jefferson Davis in 1861, making him the first Postmaster General of the newly formed Confederate post office. He was the only Postmaster General of the Confederate Post Office.

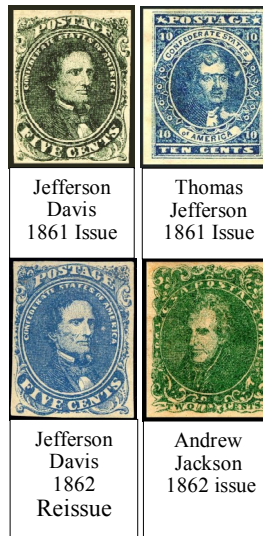
The stamps they produced were inferior in image quality to the line engraved stamps printed by the U.S. Post Office, but with what resources they had, they produced some handsome images by many accounts. The first Confederate postage

issues were placed in circulation in October 1861, five months after postal service between the North and South had ended.

Jefferson Davis is depicted on the first issue of 1861. The appearance of a living person on a postage stamp marked a break from the tra-

dition adhered to by the US Post Office, that a person may be depicted on U.S. postage or currency only after death

As the Confederate States of America existed for only four years, it was able to issue only a modest number of postage stamps, nine basic types in all. During this brief span, the Confederate Post Office contracted with five printing companies, these firms employed all three methods of printing commonly in use at that time: *lithography, typography and line-engraving.*



## Upcoming Shows

### Cranberry Stamp Show

Sunday March 25th  
10 am - 4 pm  
VFW POST #7505  
331 Mars Valencia Road  
Mars, Pennsylvania  
FREE Admission  
FREE Parking  
FREE Lunch 1 pm  
Contact  
Kevin Kellman  
301-524-9562  
Email:  
k2stamps@gmail.com

### Tri-State Monthly Coin & Stamp Show

February 25th  
10 am—4 pm  
Sheraton Bucks County  
400 Oxford Valley  
Langhorne, PA 19047  
Contact:  
Allen Brock  
305-852-7678

### McKinley Stamp Club Show

March 3rd - 4th  
Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4  
St. George Serbian Orthodox  
Social Hall  
4667 Applegrove St. NW  
North Canton, OH 44720  
FREE Admission  
Contact:  
David Pool  
330-832-5992

### Fairview Park Universal Coin, Currency & Stamp Show

March 4th  
Sun 10-3  
American Legion Post # 42  
22001 Brookpark Rd.  
Fairview Park, OH 44126  
Contact:  
John Cotleur  
440-864-7473  
FREE Admission

### Garfield-Perry March Party 2018

*128th Annual Stamp  
Exhibition & Bourse*  
March 22nd thru the 24th  
Thursday 11 am - 6 pm  
Friday 10 am - 5:30 pm  
Saturday 10 am - 4 pm  
Cleveland, OH  
La Villa Banquet  
& Party Center  
11500 Brookpark Ave.  
190+ Exhibits, 60 dealers,  
US and UN post offices.  
FREE Admission

### *Annual Meeting of the United Postal Stationery Society*

The Largest Annual Stamp  
Show in Ohio

## WSC Newsletter

It's your newsletter!  
Help Make it special  
Original articles for the  
newsletter may be submitted  
by any of the membership to  
Deb Foltyn at a meeting or  
emailed to  
Quest4moos@msn.com  
Snail mail:  
Deb Foltyn  
1023 Brintell Street  
Pittsburgh, PA15201-1637

Ideas or content suggestions  
are welcome.

*Note\* articles submitted may  
be edited for content or to fit  
the Format.  
Club members get a free hard  
copy of the newsletter.*

## What's with the holes?

The condition of a stamp or other philatelic item, is perhaps the most important factor that affects its desirability. But there are so many exceptions to "philatelic rules." One is the belief that stamps should be perfect. This has led to a whole area of collecting: that is "*perfin*" stamps with perforated initials punched in them.

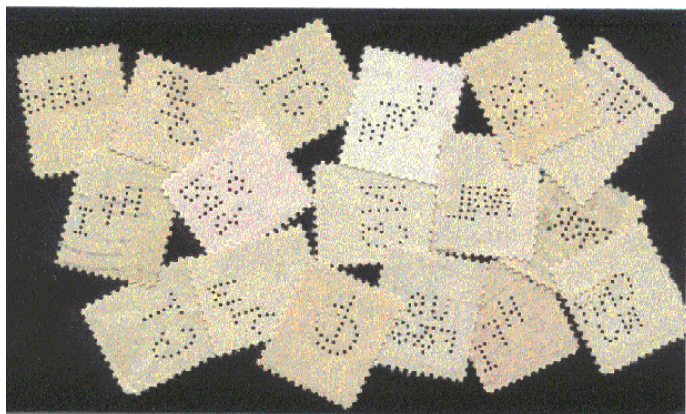
By definition, *perfins* are sets of holes punched in stamps that form patterns of letters, numbers, designs or a combination of the three. These patterns are distinctive and normally identify the user. The name is a contraction of **perforated initials** or **perforated insignia**. They are also sometimes called *SPIFS*

(Stamps Perforated with Initials of Firms and Societies).

Great Britain was the first country to use *perfins* in 1868. The practice spread quickly to Belgium 1872; Denmark, France, Germany and Switzerland 1876; and Austria 1877; the U.S. finally allowed *perfins* in 1908.

*Perfins* have appeared on postal paper of more than 200 nations. In the United States alone, more than 6,400 patterns are known to have been used. The number of patterns used around the world exceeds 50,000; 40,000 of which are between Great Britain and Germany.

There are many ways to collect *perfins*. One can collect by type; that is, one



can arrange to get one example of each perfin pattern without regard to the face value of the stamp. Or one can collect by issue.

Some collectors collect by topic: for instance, issued by banks, schools, automobile com-

panies, or by insurance companies. One example would be the nearly 200 US railroads that used *perfins* so railroad *perfin* collecting is popular.

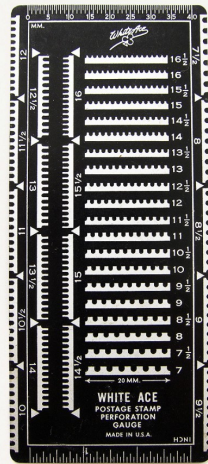
**Junior Corner**

“Hey, hand me that Gismo” - Ok so you don't really know what Pap is talking about but you hand him something from the general direction of his point...for the next few months we will cover those Gismos...

**The Tools** of the Philatelists or Stamp Collector;

This month we will discuss **Perforation Gauge**: Here's another tool to help us find differences in stamps. Some stamps have the same design but different numbers of perforations (holes between the stamps that make it easy to separate them). Of course you could count the perforations yourself by counting how many appear along a row 20 millimeters long on each edge of the stamp, sounds confusing, don't you think? So perforation gauges are a good idea. They are usually made of cardboard, plastic,

or metal and make measuring perforations simple. The gauge has different scales showing the various sizes of perforations so that you can simply place your stamp against each scale until it matches the perforations exactly to those on the gauge.



**WSC Meetings**

**Visitors are welcome!**  
 2nd and 4th Sunday  
*No Holidays*  
 Next meetings  
 March 11th & March 25th  
*Summers Meetings*  
 June thru August  
 2nd Sundays only  
 Doors Open 12:30  
 Meeting starts at 2PM  
 Churchill Borough Building,  
 2300 William Penn Hwy  
 Churchill, PA 15235.

*Free light lunch available*  
**DUES ARE ONLY \$8.00 PER FISCAL YEAR (JULY-JUNE)**  
 Members that haven't paid your dues, can send payment to: Wilkinsburg Stamp Club and sent to:  
*Wilkinsburg Stamp Club*  
*P.O. Box 10552*  
*Pittsburgh, PA 15235-0552*

**WSC Officers**

President:  
 Andy Novotny  
 novoand@hotmail.com  
Vice-President:  
 Laura Kaczynski  
 laurakac13@verizon.net  
Recording Secretary:  
 Lorraine Vincent  
 LVincent04@aol.com  
Treasurer:  
 Danielle Weaver  
 dmm742000@yahoo.com  
Newsletter Editor:  
 Deb Foltyn  
 quest4moos@msn.com  
Mailing Coordinator:  
 Danielle Weaver  
 dmm742000@yahoo.com  
Web Tech:  
 Deb Foltyn  
 Quest4moos@msn.com

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**  
[Wilkinsburgstampclub.com](http://Wilkinsburgstampclub.com)

**WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB**  
**Home of the Famous Satirical Souvenir**

**50 Years ago - November 1967**



Mauritius is an island nation in the Indian Ocean about 2,000 kilometres (1,200 mi) off the southeast coast of the African continent. It gained independence from the British Crown on March 12, 1968, with Seewoosagur Ramgoolam becoming the first prime minister of the land. Mauritius remained under Commonwealth realm for 24 years before it was proclaimed an independent republic on March 12, 1992. Its stamps since then, have depicted colorful images relevant to the island, such as wildlife and plants, local scenes and important persons. It was the only home of the now extinct Dodo Bird.

**Coats of Arms**  
 Issued on:

March 12, 1968  
 Commemorative  
 Perforation: 13½ x 13  
 Printing:  
 Offset lithography  
 Colors: Multicolor  
 Face values:  
 1, 3, 20 Mauritian cent

**Flags**  
 Issued on:  
 March 12, 1968  
 Commemorative  
 Perforation: 13½ x 13  
 Printing:  
 Offset lithography  
 Colors: Multicolor  
 Face value:  
 2, 15, 60 Mauritian cent