

# Knoxville Philatelic Society News

March 2008



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APS Chapter 1189-119261

[www.stampclubs.com/knoxville/index.htm](http://www.stampclubs.com/knoxville/index.htm)

[www.virtualstampclub.com/apschapknoxville.html](http://www.virtualstampclub.com/apschapknoxville.html)

Southeast Federation  
of Stamp Clubs

## To Soak, or Not to Soak

Several articles and letters that have appeared in *Linn's Stamp News* since the beginning of the year have addressed the increasingly difficult issue of soaking recent U.S. stamps. In the January 7 issue, "J.A. Watercutter" reported that 10 stamps issued in 2007 could not be soaked or could soak with damage expected to the image.



These 2007 stamps in the ATM booklet pane format are reported to be additional, non-soakable recent stamps.

The reason for this problem, reported by Jay Bigalke in the February 4 *Linn's*, is the absence of a water soluble layer in the paper used increasingly by stamp printers. The water soluble layer in self-adhesive stamps is more expensive to produce, and printers are no longer required by the U.S. government to include it in their stamps.

Collecting used stamps is an important foundation of our hobby, and is the way many of us started. Although collecting stamps "on piece" or on cover are two other formats to collect, off-paper should not be eliminated. It is one of the least expensive approaches to collecting.

Please join the American Philatelic Society and collectors all over the U.S. in protesting this cost saving approach to stamp printing that is harmful to our hobby.

*Tom Broadhead*

## President's Column

This stamp stuff is fun! Our attendance at the regular, as well as the Fifth Tuesday KPS meetings has been really great. I really enjoy the time visiting with everyone and swapping stamp stories before the meeting starts. If you haven't attended a KPS meeting in a while, make it a point to join your fellow collectors in March and then make it a regular monthly date.

You'll be getting this KPS News a few days after Knoxpex 2008. Did you notice the show cancellation on this envelope? I hope that you look forward as I do, to receiving the special cachet covers that Ralph Dinwiddie "whips up" each month.

KPS News editor Tom Broadhead would like to have more stamp articles for publication. You can write an article and send it to Tom without leaving your house. Don't be selfish. Share your collecting interest with other members by way of the KPS News. Write an article about what you collect or about an interesting stamp or cover that you have.

Thanks to Knoxpex, my stamp room got cleared out. It was getting more difficult each day to get into my stamp room. I was able to auction off a lot of duplicate stamps and unwanted stamp material during the Knoxpex live auction this year. Now I have room to fill again in the coming year. This seems to be a vicious cycle, but I love it.

Knoxpex 2008 is now history. We'll review this year's show and bourse in the next KPS News. I would like to thank all who contributed their time and energy to Knoxpex this year.

See you at the March meeting and again next month in the President's Column.

*Jim Pettway*

## **Knoxville Philatelic Society Meeting – February 5, 2008**

The February 2008 meeting of the Knoxville Philatelic Society was held at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalistic Church on February 5, 2008. President Jim Pettway called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

There were 21 members present. Jim thanked the attendees for such a large participation and noted the large turnouts for meetings and “fifth Tuesday” meetings in 2008.

Since this was a Knoxpex work session, there was no program. A short business meeting was held. Jim noted there were approximately 15 KPS members attending the recent APS AmeriStamp Expo in Charlotte, NC, and several of those discussed their purchases and activities. Tom Broadhead led a discussion on selling items currently in the KPS library, and it was agreed that most would be offered at the Knoxpex live auction. Minutes of the January meeting were approved as they appeared in the newsletter. Pat Goebel presented the treasurer’s report which was approved. Jim reminded all that the 2008 dues were now due and indicated that approximately 15 current members had not renewed their membership as of yet.

A report on the status of KNOXPEX status was presented by Gerald Schroedl. Committees reported the status on:

- Publicity
- Cancellation and cachet
- Hotel arrangements
- Bourse (11 dealers)
- Security
- Auction

**The Knoxville Philatelic Society meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church at 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919. Annual dues are \$15.00.**

**KPS Officers:**

President	Jim Pettway
Past President	Mike Kauffman
Vice President	Ralph Dinwiddie
Treasurer	Pat Goebel
Secretary	Charlie Wade
Directors	Bruce Kinney, Stu Hanlein, Thomas Lane, Charlie Wade
APS Representative	Jim Pettway

Requests for information and submissions of articles and short notes of philatelic interest for the newsletter may be directed to Tom Broadhead, KPS, P.O. Box 50422, Knoxville, TN 37950-0422 – or by e-mail to [tomwb50@aol.com](mailto:tomwb50@aol.com).

- Exhibits
- Beginners area

Gerald asked for volunteers for Friday, Saturday and Sunday and a work assignment sheet was circulated.

A Knoxpex work session followed in which members prepared cachets and promotional mailings.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Submitted by:

Charlie Wade, Secretary

## **KPS Executive Board Meeting – January 29, 2008**

President Jim Pettway called the January 29, 2008, Executive Board meeting to order at 6:15 pm. The meeting was held at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church in Knoxville. Board members present: Directors Stu Hanlein, Thomas Lane, Bruce Kenney; President Jim Pettway, Vice-President Ralph Dinwiddie, Treasurer Pat Goebel, Immediate Past President Mike Kauffman. Non-voting members present were Richard Ehrlich and Tom Broadhead.

Committee Reports: Tom Broadhead updated everyone on Knoxpex 2008 publicity. He prepared press releases to be sent to 27 newspapers and will update the Knoxpex reminder post cards used last year with the 2008 show information, including a copy of the show cancellation, and have these ready for the February KPS meeting. Tom also prepared show flyers that would be available to members at the February KPS meeting. Ralph Dinwiddie will have address labels for the show announcement cards ready then.

Ralph Dinwiddie put to a vote as to whether he should mail the March KPS News prior to Knoxpex 2008 or wait and mail them at the show in order to get the show cancellation on the monthly cachet. Members voted to wait and get the show cancellation.

(continued on page 4 of this newsletter)

## **Stamp of the Month**

The stamp for March is a German commemorative, issued as part of a four-stamp set in 1935 to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the German railway system. It is the second to lowest value (12 pfennigs) and features a “modern express train” according to the Scott catalog, which numbers this as Scott # 460.



Thanks to Nicole Sanchez for the donation of these stamps.

## A Confederate Arkansas Discovery in an Unlikely Place

by Bruce Roberts

I was contacted about two months ago by a member of the Confederate Stamp Alliance (CSA) committee that issues certificates attesting to the genuine usage of Confederate covers. A cover had been submitted that was purported to be from "Nix's Ferry, Ark," written at the upper left. Since I have a large collection of images and data about Arkansas CSA I was able to help determine what was needed about the cover, shown below in color.

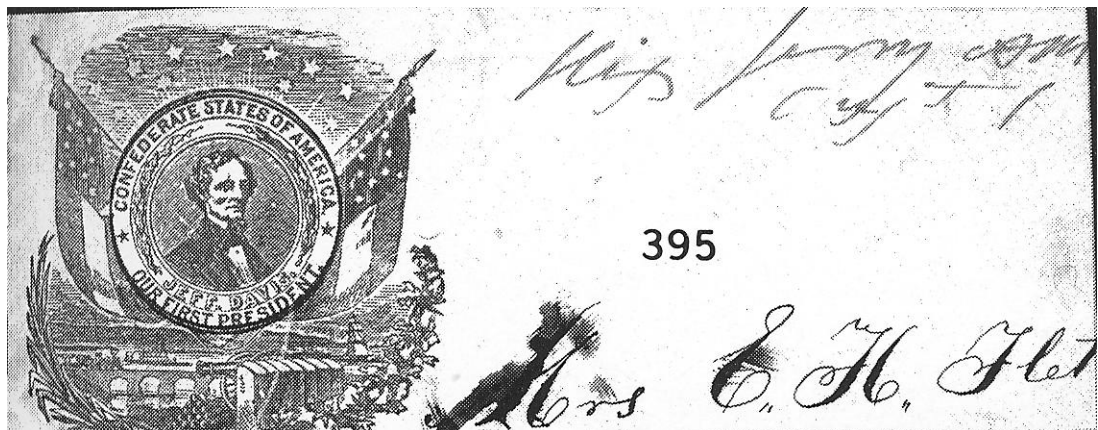


In fact the cover was mailed from "Hix's Ferry, Arkansas." Post Office records indicated that the Hix's Ferry post office was founded in 1845 and closed in 1866. Hix's Ferry was located in northeastern Arkansas, right on the Missouri border. I was able to explain the cover, and the routing on the face ("via Napoleon" in a downward curving handwriting at lower left) for the CSA committee. I stated that this was the only reported cover from Hix's Ferry,

which was true then...I had never seen another either from before the war or during the Confederacy period. But, like all things in Philately, you need to be surprised every now and then.

I am the editor for the Arkansas Stampless Cover section of the new CSA catalog, with a target publication date of 2010. I am now gathering market data so I can assign values to the various Arkansas CSA markings on cover. I was going through the "patriotic" section of my records, where I keep auction records of Patriotics that both originated in Arkansas or were mailed into Arkansas, and my eye was caught by the cover illustrated below (photographically cropped in the original auction catalog). This cover was sold in 1987 as part of a fabulous sale of Tennessee Postal History and was described as (Lot 395) "**Jefferson David Medallion (JD1)**, vignette and verse in blue, surround in red, "Ship Ferry, Tenn/Aug 1/5" pmk routed "via Memphis, Tenn" to Ark., reduced a bit at R, small stain, **fine**, rare, Dietz \$800, est \$600."

I think that you can see that this is the same "Hix's Ferry, Ark" manuscript postmark as on the cover above. How anyone could make "Ship" out of the first name on the



cover is hard to understand. Also, a cover mailed in Tennessee would be marked simply "via Memphis," with no need to add the state name. With this happy convergence of events I have identified an additional Arkansas patriotic cover. Such covers are very scarce and generally sell for closer to \$2500 these days than the \$600 estimate in the 1987 auction for a Patriotic used in a Tennessee town. Someone really got a bargain on this cover! For more information about all aspects of Arkansas Postal History, visit my website at [www.arkph.com](http://www.arkph.com).

# This month's KPS Meeting – Tuesday, March 4

(KPS Executive Board minutes, continued from p. 2)

In new business, Jim Pettway made a motion that the last line of Article III – Members, Section 4 of the Knoxville Philatelic Society Constitution and Bylaws (specifically “Annual dues shall be \$15.00 for each regular member/household.”) be stricken and that a Section 5 be added as follows:

**Society dues shall be recommended by the Executive Board and presented to members present at a regular meeting for a majority vote of approval/disapproval.**

The Executive Board approved this motion. The motion will be printed in the next KPS News edition and then a vote will be conducted during a regular KPS meeting.

Jim Pettway suggested that the KPS purchase an LCD projector, screen, and audio system to be used in conjunction with laptop computers. Jim pointed out that slide projectors are a thing of the past and stamp programs are available from the APS on DVDs. Laptop computers are readily available but a projector is not. Members would be able to put together programs at home and bring them to show at a meeting. Ralph pointed out that many times material is passed around for viewing during a program presentation, but if this material was on a DVD and projected onto a screen then all could view at the same time and the presenter would be able to point out things on the screen. After brief discussion Ralph Dinwiddie volunteered to research these items and give a report of his findings at the next Executive Board meeting.

Jim Pettway adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Prepared by:  
Jim Pettway, acting Secretary

## April KPS Program

Chattanooga Stamp Club member Jim Cate will give a program on “Chattanooga Straight-Line Cancels – 1863-1864” at the April KPS meeting. He will show some covers from his award winning exhibit that is a study of provisional postal cancels used by the Union army for a period of only 40 days following the Union occupation of Chattanooga.

## Nashville Stamp Show – March 8-9

Plan to attend the Nashville Philatelic Society's annual show the weekend after Knospex. This year, the show is at the Music Valley Event Center, 2416 Music Valley Drive, Nashville, TN 37214 – take I-40 west, then north on Briley Parkway to the Opryland exit. The theme is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ford Model “T,” and a show cachet and cancel will be available.



Learn more about the NPS at <http://home.comcast.net/~nashvillephilatelic>.

## “KPS News” Wins at Colopex

Your newsletter won a silver award in the literature competition at last month's Colopex, an APS World Series of Philately show conducted by the Columbus



Philatelic Club. KPS member Thomas Lane, a former member of the Columbus club, attended the show and brought the medal to the February KPS meeting.

“KPS News” was one of two society newsletters entered in the competition, which included several categories including books, articles, and catalogs. Judging literature is a challenge, and we look forward to receiving the judges' suggestions.

## Are Stamp Collectors More Successful?

A recent article by Les Winick in *Linn's Stamp News* reports that a British newspaper survey found that “children who collected stamps tended to be more successful as adults.” Among other criteria for measuring success was the income level of adults who had been collectors. Good qualities attributed to stamp collectors in the article are persistence, attention to detail, and patience. *What do you think?*

**Next month's KPS Meeting – Tuesday, April 1**