

# PERRYSCOPE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
GARFIELD-PERRY STAMP CLUB

FIRST THURSDAY each month at the DOUBLETREE HOTEL - 6200 Quarry Lane - INDEPENDENCE, at 7:00 PM

May 2023

## From the president

March Party 2023 was another wonderful success thanks to all of our excellent volunteers. It was great to see the Best Western Plus abuzz with our full fair of dealers, exhibits, post offices, meetings, and gatherings.



In addition, it also was great to see the new collectors' room fully operational again.

Our final in-person meeting before summer break will be June 1. Please plan to attend. We will again offer Zoom presentations in July and August. This is a great way for our extended philatelic family to stay in touch.

For those who haven't done so yet, it is time to pay dues for 2023. You can give payment of \$15 to Ken Nilsestuen, our treasurer at the May 4 meeting or send payment to Ken at 1000 Kingswood Dr., Akron, Ohio, 44313-5921.

Thank you again to all of you who help make Garfield Perry Stamp Club the premier local club in the United States.

- Howard S. Chapman

## GP social media gets a boost

You may have noticed that the Garfield-Perry website is getting regular updates.

So is the club's Facebook presence.

It's part of an effort to raise awareness of the club and its activities, and hopefully attract more people to the world of stamp collecting.

In recent months member Chris Duston has coordinated the website (online at [garfieldperry.org](http://garfieldperry.org)). He has worked to ensure the timely posting of information about the March Party and club meetings.

There also is an icon with a link for the Great American Stamp Show in August here in Cleveland. GP has taken the lead locally in promoting the country's largest annual stamp show and recruiting volunteers.

As part of the effort, club officers and directors decided to appropriate funds to update software for the site so that viewers will be able to more easily see information on the home page and navigate other pages.

The website has more available than just club news. By clicking on the various tabs, viewers can explore member exhibits, presentations from past meetings on Zoom, club history and plenty



Screen shot of the GP Facebook page.

of other hobby information.

Regarding social media, member Matt Liebson has reactivated the GP Facebook page. New information is being posted regularly, alerting a wider audience of club activities and even interesting philatelic news.

If you haven't been to the Facebook page yet, please visit and click on "Like." That simple action will help build the club's visibility among other collectors.

You can become involved as well. If there's anything you think should be posted online or on Facebook, send a note to [gpper-scope@gmail.com](mailto:gpper-scope@gmail.com) and it will be considered.

## Fanfare welcomed first U.S. postal card 150 years ago

*Note: This article is reprinted courtesy of The Chronicle-Telegram in Elyria, Ohio.*

By Dennis Sadowski

Back in 1873, the introduction of a new postal product in the United States grabbed headlines and the public's fancy.

The product was the postal card, a piece of stationery that didn't require an envelope.

The indicium, indicating the then -1-cent postal card rate, was imprinted on the front of the card in the upper right corner, leaving room for an addressee. The back offered space to write a message.

A postal card is different than a post card, which is privately produced and has no postal indicium.

With much fanfare in newspapers, the first U.S. postal card debuted on May 12 in Springfield, Massachusetts. Cards went on sale the next day in Boston, New York City and Washington, D.C. and in Philadelphia and other large cities two days later.

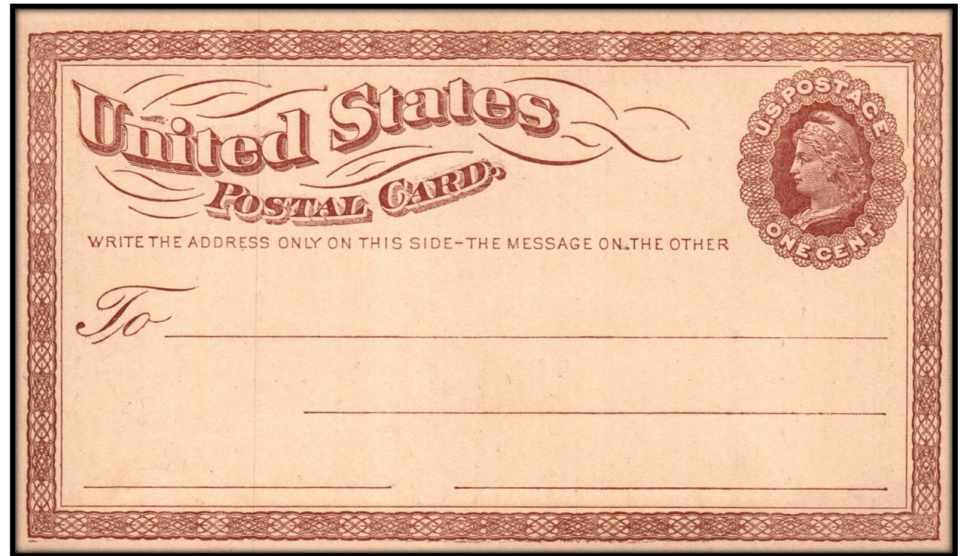
**'Overall, it was the  
email of its day.'**

Post office officials considered various designs before settling on a bust of Liberty. It was printed in brown ink on buff colored stock.

GP member Rocco Caponi, a postal stationery collector in Cuyahoga Falls, said the release was a big deal because it meant people and businesses could send messages for a one-third the cost of mailing a letter.

"It was probably a lot of money back then. So the 1-cent card became very economical for the general public for communication.

Overall, it was the email of its



The first United States postal card from 1873 depicts a bust of Liberty. Postal cards quickly became widely accepted by the public and used by business.

day," Caponi said.

For postal workers, the card allowed for faster processing and delivery during a time when mail volume was exploding.

Caponi noted that the Post Office Dept. was slow in bringing the postal card to customers. An economist in Austria-Hungary developed the idea of a "Correspondenz Karte" in 1869. Such a card was released in German and Hungarian language versions on Oct. 1 that year. The indicia featured an image of Emperor Franz Joseph I and was valued at 2 kronen.

By the end of 1870 Great Britain, Finland, Switzerland and Wurttemberg released their own cards.

The U.S. apparently took its time because "slanderous or embarrassing messages might be written on the open back of the postal card," states the introduction of Charles Fricke's "A Contemporary Account of the First United States Postal Card, 1870-1875," which was updated and republished this year by the United Postal Stationery Society.

Congress also was slow to act,

waiting until Aug. 8, 1872 to authorize issuing postal cards and finally appropriating funds for development and printing four months later.

The first card was released in a second version of the same design on July 6, 1873. The size of the "U.S.P.O.D." monogram watermark distinguishes the two cards. The watermark on first card (Scott UX1) is 90 millimeters by 60 millimeters while on the second (UX3) it is 53 millimeters by 36 millimeters. The second version is much more plentiful and less costly to purchase.

The U.S. Postal Service commemorated the postal card's centennial in 1973 with a card reproducing the original design (UX65). It was printed on white paper and in magenta ink. As of mid-April, the USPS had not announced a plan to mark the postal card sesquicentennial.

Over 150 years, more than 640 different postal cards have been issued in the U.S. Today's postal card rate is 48 cents. Their popularity today is less than those first cards.

## Member's story: Alan Hanzl

*Note: Member Alan Hanzl shared the following reflection on his venture into stamp collecting.*

My interest in stamp collecting began in response to an assignment created by my third-grade teacher. She had us collect at least 25 different U.S. stamps, used or unused, and describe the image portrayed on each stamp -- a kind of American history, landmark and/or geography lesson.



Hanzl

The father of one of my classmates was an avid collector. He helped us assemble stamps for the assignment, taught us several philatelic terms and gave us advice on how to expand our simple collections.

A few years later my aunt introduced me to her primary stamp collecting interest areas; Canada, United Nations and Czechoslovakia. She often bought country packets in a local stamp shop or on approval by mail. She also signed up for new issue services provided by the Minkus counter at Halle's and later Higbee's in Cleveland.

More than 30 years later I met Paul Fusco who was both a stamp dealer and auctioneer. I particularly enjoyed his auctions conducted several times a year.

In reviewing the material for sale, I began to learn much more about the postal history aspect of the collecting hobby. Fusco encouraged me to attend local stamp shows and to join the American Philatelic Society and any other specialty societies that focused on any of my interests.

Subsequently I joined the American Philatelic Society and the Society for Czechoslovak Philately. In addition to Garfield-Perry, I am a member of the Collectors Club of Akron and the Cuy-Lor Stamp Club.

It wasn't long before Fusco asked me to act as a bidding agent at his auctions for customers who could not personally attend in person. This served to increase my philatelic knowledge and interest.

Twenty years after joining the APS and SCP, some of my society colleagues encouraged me to exhibit some of my material. I thought it best to initially exhibit at a local show where I could gain experience and receive advice from the sponsoring club members. The Cuy-Lor Stamp Club turned out to be the ideal fit. With initial success, I then chose to join and exhibit at the Garfield Perry March Party, a World Series of Philately show.

While the first nearly 60 years of my stamp collecting focused primarily on mint stamps, the last seven years since I began exhibiting has demanded

### The Partitioning of Czechoslovakia (1938 – 1939)

#### Exhibit Focus

This exhibit presents the stamp issues created for the various Czechoslovak territories from June 18, 1938 to August 31, 1939, encompassing the partitioning period. Postal rates and examples of their use of those issues are also displayed.

#### Introduction

Czechs and Slovaks were among the several Slavic peoples that sought independence from the Austro-Hungarian Empire at the conclusion of World War I. During late October 1918, both the Czech and Slovak National Councils decided that their best chance to maintain autonomy and independence was to merge with one another to form the nation of Czechoslovakia.

Nearly 20 years later, the Munich Pact of 30 September 1938, instigated by Germany, initiated the process by which the nation of Czechoslovakia would be fully partitioned within six months. Despite some territorial and political limitations, Slovakia chose to declare its independence by 14 March 1939, creating its' first Republic. Germany overran the remaining Czech territory, forming the Bohemia-Moravia Protectorate, while Hungary overran Carpatho-Ukraine within the next two days.

#### Exhibit Plan



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|----------|---|-----------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Final Summer of Unified Czechoslovakia</b> | <b>June 1938 – September 1938</b> |
|          | 1.1 Sokol Summer Games Issue                  |                                   |
|          | 1.2 Pízen & Koscice Scenery Issues            |                                   |
|          | 1.3 Prague Philatelic Exhibition Sheet        |                                   |



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| <b>2</b> | <b>Munich Pact Effect</b>                                  | <b>October 1938 – December 1938</b> |
|          | 2.1 Ceded Czechoslovak Territories                         |                                     |
|          | 2.2 Stefanik 50h Portrait Issue                            |                                     |
|          | 2.3 Czechoslovak Stamp 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Issues |                                     |



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|----------|---|----------------------------------|
| <b>3</b> | <b>Partitioning Completed</b>               | <b>January 1939 – March 1939</b> |
|          | 3.1 Slovak Parliament Overprint             |                                  |
|          | 3.2 Stefanik 60h Portrait Issue             |                                  |
|          | 3.3 Masaryk 1K Portrait Issue               |                                  |
|          | 3.4 Carpatho-Ukraine Moment of Independence |                                  |



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| <b>4</b> | <b>Bohemia-Moravia Protectorate</b> | <b>March 1939 – August 1939</b> |
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|--|---|--|
|  | 4.1 Existing Czechoslovak Issues            |  |
|  | 4.2 Provisional Overprints                  |  |
|  | 4.3 Castles, Churches, Cities Issues        |  |
|  | 4.4 Linden Leaves Issues                    |  |
|  | 4.5 Newspaper Issues                        |  |
|  | 4.6 Philatelic Exhibitions Sheet Overprints |  |



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| <b>5</b> | <b>Slovakia Republic</b> | <b>March 1939 – August 1939</b> |
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|  | 5.1 Slovensky Stat Horizontal Overprints |  |
|  | 5.2 Slovensky Stat Diagonal Overprints   |  |
|  | 5.3 Hlinka Stat Overprints               |  |
|  | 5.4 Hlinka Regular Issues                |  |
|  | 5.5 Newspaper Stat Overprints            |  |
|  | 5.6 Stefanik Regular Issues              |  |



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| <b>6</b> | <b>Conclusion</b>                   | <b>May 1945 – present</b> |
|          | 6.1 Reunification of Czechoslovakia |                           |
|          | 6.2 Second Partition of 1993        |                           |

Key Items and points of interest are accompanied with a Green Dot. ●

The opening page of Alan Hanzl's exhibit "The Partitioning of Czechoslovakia (1938-1939)."

the considerable incorporation of covers, post-cards and special cancellations. The background research for the exhibits has allowed me to utilize my collegiate minor, history.

That's not to say my college major, mathematics, has been ignored. I taught math for more than 40 years at the high school and junior college levels.

Since the 2017 I have committed to exhibit Czechoslovak related material at the March Party each year and at the WSP Show where the Czechoslovak society holds its annual meeting. To date I have exhibited seven Czechoslovak topics and have conducted presentations on four of them.

This increased involvement has led to many new friendships, helpful club members, society colleagues and stamp dealers, along with leadership position opportunities and an ever-growing knowledge base of philately. It has made my philatelic "second career" grow from the roots of a collecting hobby.

## Upcoming shows

**May 12-13:** Butlerpex 2023, Butler County Philatelic Society; Tanglewood Center, 10 Austin Ave., Lyndora, Pennsylvania

**May 21:** Columbus Spring Filatelic Fair/Columbus Coin and Stamp Show; Makoy Center, 5642 Center St., Hilliard Ohio

**May 21:** Lansing Stamp and Coin Show; Royal Scot Golf & Bowl, 4722 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing, Michigan.

**August 10-13:** Great American Stamp Show, American Philatelic Society, American First Day Cover Society, American Topical Society; Huntington Convention Center, 300 Lakeside Ave., Cleveland.

## GP programs

The club meets the first Thursday of the month except July and August. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. at Doubletree Hotel, 6200 Quarry Lane, Independence; (216-447-1300).

Club members are invited to meet for dinner at 6 p.m. at the hotel restaurant.

Upcoming programs include:

**May: 4:** Ray Beer and Ken Nilsestuen, Why imperf varieties get listed in the Scott catalogue

**June 1:** Kent Johnson, Pre-treaty U.S.-French mail

**July and August:** Meetings on Zoom; details to be announced and links sent.



## Club Officers

Howard Chapman, president

Ray Beer, vice president

Clint Many, recording secretary

Ken Nilsestuen, treasurer

Trustees: Rocco Caponi, Carol Thatcher

Legal adviser: Matt Liebson

The Perryscope is published by the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club.

Editor: Dennis Sadowski

Send news and information to  
GPPerryscope@gmail.com.

Learn about the club online at  
garfieldperry.org and on Facebook.

Learn about history and geography through stamp collecting

Perryscope  
Garfield-Perry Stamp Club  
c/o Dennis Sadowski  
3245 Nagel Rd.  
Avon, OH 44011-2059