

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

June-August 2023

GREAT AMERICAN STAMP SHOW

Collectors eager to descend on Cleveland for four days of philatelic adventure, enjoyment

All eyes in the U.S. stamp collecting world will turn to Cleveland Aug. 10-13 when the Great American Stamp Show comes to town.

With meetings of specialty societies, outstanding exhibits, new stamps releases by several postal administrations and 80 dealers offering stamps and covers to satisfy any interest, GASS promises to be the highlight of the year for area collectors.

Show hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday.

Members of the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club have been leading the effort locally in drumming up interest and recruiting volunteers for the show, which will take place at the Huntington Convention Center, 300 Lakeside Ave., in downtown Cleveland.

The show is sponsored by the American Philatelic Society, the



AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

A showgoer at GASS 2022 in August in Sacramento, California, checks his stamp needs with a smartphone at a dealer booth.

American Topical Association and the American First Day Cover Society.

"This is one show collectors will not want to miss," Rocco Caponi, one of the GP members leading the club's effort to promote the show. "There will be something for everyone, from the beginner to the advanced collector."

This year marks the first time since 1999 that the country's largest annual stamp show will be in

Cleveland. APS officials expect large crowds. Hotel rooms have been sold out since April.

The opening day of the show promises to be a blockbuster with four first day of issue ceremonies for new stamps (U.S., U.N., Faroe Islands and Marshall Islands) and two presentations by staff members of the Smithsonian National Postal Museum among the offerings.

The APS will host

its annual general meeting at 9 a.m., Saturday. The ATA and AFDCS also will conduct annual meetings during the show.

Meanwhile, programs sponsored by the AFDCS will feature top U.S. Postal Service officials.

William Gicker, director of stamp services, will speak at 1 p.m., Thursday. Four top managers from Stamp Fulfillment Services in Kansas City will discuss their work at 1 p.m., Friday.

See GASS on page 2

From the VP

Hi everyone!

June will be our last in-person meeting for the summer, but that doesn't mean that we won't be seeing each other before September. Ken Nilsestuen, again, will be the glue that keeps us together by hosting Zoom meetings for July and August. I say "again" because Zoom was the only way that our club remained in contact during the pandemic, and Ken made sure that the "family" remained together.

Speaking of the Jack-of-all-trades-master-of-all, Ken will be giving a fascinating presentation on the *Barbary Pirates* in July's Zoom meeting. August will be a Show-and-Tell month, so please have an item of philatelic interest scanned and ready to be shared (or in hand) for August 3.

During the June meeting Kent Johnston will be giving a presentation on Pre-Treaty U.S.-French Mail and judging by the cover he brought in for viewing several meetings ago, this will be one that you won't want to miss.

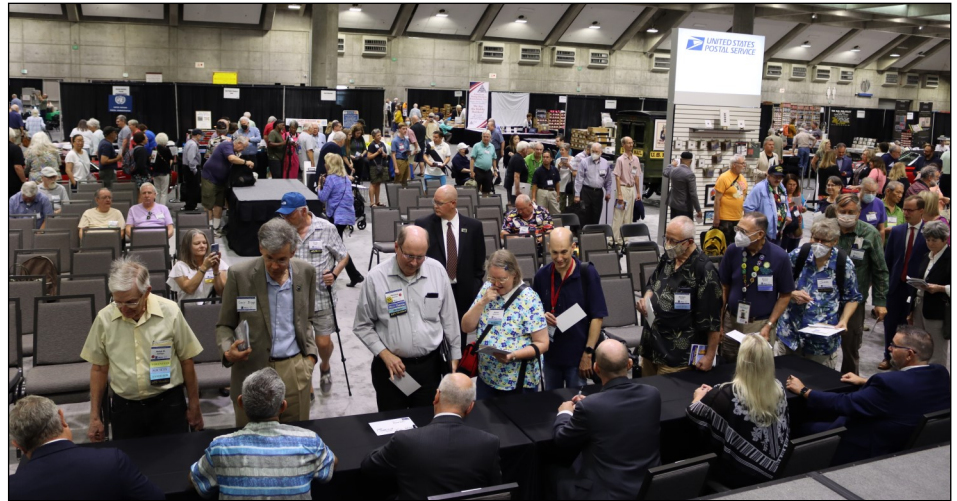
I've noticed that over the last several months there has been increased attendance at meetings. Thank you Chris Duston for the email reminders and Dennis Sadowski for expertly resurrecting (no pun intended) the Perryscope.

Also, this is particularly encouraging in a time when World Series of Philately club shows like Aripex, Sescal and Nojex have been postponed or canceled. Rocco, and all who have contributed in making the March Party stupendously successful, you ROCK! It's 133 years and going strong!

Last, but certainly not least, GASS is less than three short months away. If you are able, volunteer for one of the many available duties and plan on attending the best show of the year. Dennis and Rocco have volunteer registration forms.

Have a wonderful summer!

— Ray Beer



AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The first day of issue ceremony for the Pony Car stamps at last year's Great American Stamp Show attracted a large crowd and kept the autograph line afterward busy. Four of the five first day ceremonies during GASS this year are planned for the show's opening day. The fifth will take place on Friday.

GASS

From page 1

Specialty societies and presentations on diverse topics are on tap throughout the show.

The show also hosts the Champion of Champions competition featuring the Grand Award winners from more than 30 World Series of Philately shows across the country during the last year. Among the exhibits competing for top honors will be "The Two Cent Hardings" by James Hering of Marion, Ohio, who took top honors at this year's March Party.

In addition, the show will feature the annual APS literature competition. Authors of books, monographs, articles and columns will be vying for honors.

Besides the C of C, myriad exhibits will showcase a variety of stamp and postal history topics.

Caponi advised that it's not too late to sign up to volunteer.

"We can use people for a variety of tasks. Many different skills are needed. Volunteers will know they've helped make the show a success," he said.

Volunteer opportunities are available beginning two days be-

fore the show to help with exhibit frame preparation from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Two-hour slots are available Wednesday through Sunday. Among the jobs available are dealer check-in, exhibit mounting and dismounting, exhibit packing, jury and awards assistance, registration, and the popular Stamps by the Bucket/Covers by the Container and youth areas.

Garfield-Perry also is seeking members to staff a booth being shared with the France and Colonies Philatelic Society.

Specialty societies focusing on a wide array of collecting interests will be meeting throughout the event. Some will be giving presentations that will be open to all showgoers.

If you're planning to attend, Wendy Masorti, APS director of membership and shows, suggests registering online to avoid delays at entry.

Details about the show, parking, online registration and a constantly updated schedule of events, are online at www.stamps.org/great-american-stamp-show.

Jere Dutt: From packet collector to philatelist

Note: GP member Jere Dutt shared the following reflection on his stamp collecting interests. He's always up for stamp conversations and can be reached at jere@duttenterprises.com.

My stamp story starts like most.

I was about 8 years old when my maternal grandfather introduced me to his stamps. Grandpa Bud was a mostly U.S. and U.N. specialist with a general international collection as well.



Dutt

I was already a big reader and intrigued by adventure stories. The stamps from far-away places leapt off the pages and transported me to obviously exotic places: Australia, China, Japan and India. Every page was more amazing than the last. I was instantly hooked as he told me a bit about each country and a small tidbit about the stamp. Perf, imperf, commemorative, definitive, even ones printed before 1900!

I honestly think it was the following week I showed up and a H. E. Harris Statesman album, a small packet of stamps, tongs and a bag of hinges were waiting for me. He allowed me to pick my favorite stamps from his collection to start my own. The stamp, Iceland Scott 194, showing Mount Hekla, has been the first stamp in every new album I've owned since. It has a volcano and was from far-off Iceland. How cool is that?

Quickly I settled on a different series as my favorite though: A man climbing a palm tree from Dahomey. Plentiful in every dollar packet purchased, but you never could seem to find those elusive ones. The big one cataloged almost \$5. Colorful, from the farthest away place possible and a couple tough ones to find keep the hunt going. It doesn't get much better.

Flash forward too many years -- 45 if we're counting -- and the fascination with stamps and now postal history is as strong as ever. I have bloomed, if I do say so myself, into an actual philatelist. I have continued the pursuit of the palm climber series (Scott 42-96) into adulthood and have breached the \$5

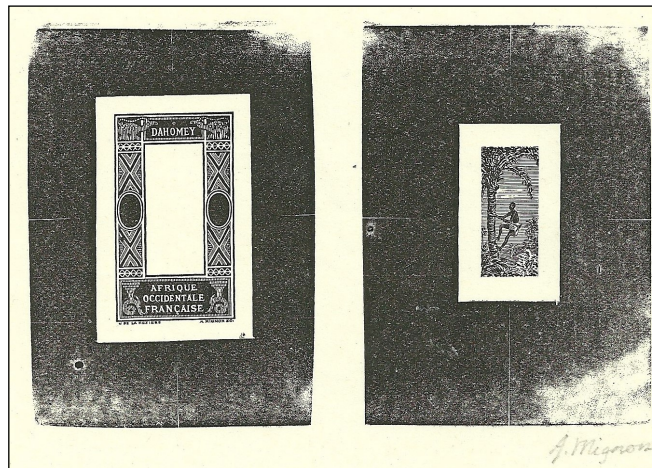


The 1-centime value of the Dahomey's palm climber set shows a green central vignette with a black frame rather than a black vignette within a violet frame.

mark long ago with some of the material represented in the accompanying illustrations.

The side-by-side signed proof of the vignette and frame shown is a unique item along with a dozen or so more of the production proofs and essays which begin my large gold-winning exhibit.

In the second image, there is something wrong with the 1-centime value: the colors are different than originally issued. The stamp shown has a green central vignette within a black frame. The original stamp has a black vignette within a violet frame.



Side-by-side signed proof of the vignette and frame of Dahomey's palm climber stamp.

In addition, I have expanded my interests to include a worldwide collection, a single specimen collection to incorporate fringe issuing entities, French stampless military mail, the U.S. 13-cent liberty bell, forgeries, Iceland, British Honduras, Benin, Ethiopia, Tripolitania, dead post office markings of Ohio, and much more.

I call it collecting; my wife calls it stamp hoarding.

Along with the more in-depth study of the philatelic world I enjoy being a part of several clubs including Garfield Perry, Collector's Club of Akron (currently president), the McKinley Club in Canton, and currently corresponding secretary of the France and Colonies Society.

The most recent venture I have embarked on is becoming a philatelic judge. I hope to complete the apprenticeship this year.

Upcoming shows

June 2-4: National Philatelic Exhibitions of Washington, McLean Hilton Tyson's Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Dr., McLean, Virginia

June 9-10: Dearborn Stamp Show, Dearborn Stamp Club, Sokol Cultural Center, 23600 W. Warren Rd., Dearborn, Michigan

June 10-11: SCOPEX, Mount Nittany Philatelic Society, American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania

June 25, July 30, August 27: Montrose Stamp Bourse, Holiday Inn, 4073 Medina Rd., Akron, Ohio

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:

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

July 6: Ken Nilsestuen, "The History of the Barbary Pirates and Europeans in Algeria."

August 3: Member show-and-tell.

Links will be sent via email.



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

Perryscope is published by the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club.

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Send news and information to GPPerryscope@gmail.com.

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

Stamp collecting: Hobby of a lifetime

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