

PERRYSCOPE

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GARFIELD-PERRY STAMP CLUB

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September 2023

GREAT AMERICAN STAMP SHOW

Cleveland impresses the stamp world with an unforgettable four-day celebration

The Great American Stamp Show, which came to Cleveland last month for the first time since 1999, was a huge success.

Northeast Ohio collectors joined stamp enthusiasts from across the country for four days of philatelic enjoyment with rave reviews coming from virtually everyone who attended.

Collectors had the opportunity to meet nationally and internationally known exhibitors, talk with stamp engraver Martin Mörck of Denmark, whose 1,000th stamp design was released in Cleveland, join a series of standing-room-only first-day-of-issue ceremonies for new stamps and shop for hard-to-find items.

Dealers reported brisk sales, especially during the first two days of the show, when people packed the Huntington Convention Center.

Members from the Garfield-Perry, Black River, Cuy-Lor, Euclid, McKinley, Medina and Stark County stamp clubs and the Akron Collectors Club played important roles at the show, volunteering in a variety of activities before during and after the four-day extravaganza to assure its success.

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DENNIS SADOWSKI

Garfield-Perry members filled the floor at the Great-American Stamp Show Aug. 10-13. Greg Shoults and Jere Dutt, top, were seen discussing some of the finer points of exhibiting on Thursday afternoon. On Saturday, Matt Liebson and Ken Nilsestuen, who served as chief judge on the exhibit jury, review notes with judges Sam Chiu and Ed Kroft both of Canada.

From the president

I hope each of you had an opportunity to visit the GASS show in Cleveland, Aug. 10-13. There were wonderful exhibits to view, many dealers at which to spend your money and club booths to sit and visit with all numerous specialist collectors.



Our Garfield-Perry members were volunteering all over the show in various capacities. We should feel very

proud of our GP Club and our membership.

In my conversation with Scott English, I was told the APS will not wait so long to return to Cleveland. Everyone I talked with was pleased with the GASS show, as I hope were each of you.

Sept. 7 restarts our in-person meetings. I look forward to most of you attending. The comradery of being with other philatelists is a most enjoyable experience.

Each of you are invited to work toward an exhibit for the March Party or another show, and/or a talk on your collecting interests for a Garfield-Perry meeting. This is a great learning experience for all of us, as we have an opportunity to see items we may not personally collect.

It is not too early to begin planning to attend GASS 2024 in Hartford, Connecticut, Aug. 15-18, 2024.

— *Howard S. Chapman*

GASS

From page 1

Scott English, executive director of the American Philatelic Society, a show sponsor, told members during the Saturday membership meeting that he and the staff were impressed by the effort of Northeast Ohio clubs to promote GASS and turn out visitors to the show

While final attendance figures were still being compiled in late August, attendance was estimated at 2,500, with many visitors participating on multiple days. It was the highest attendance at a national stamp show since before the pandemic, English said.

With such a strong turnout, English suggested that show planners won't wait another 24 years to return to Cleveland.

GASS awards

Jay Stotts took top honors in the literature competition during the Great American Stamp Show Aug. 10-13.

A Mansfield, Ohio, native now living in Houston, Stotts receive the Grand Award and a large gold for his monumental "The United

States Fourth Bureau Issue 1922-1938."

Stotts' work offers a comprehensive look at the definitive series that debuted on Oct 4, 1922 with the release of an 11-cent stamp depicting President Rutherford B. Hayes in Fremont, Ohio.

The stamp series depicts presidents, non-presidents and iconic images from across the country in denominations from ½-cent to \$5.

Gregory Shoults had his exhibit "Washington and Franklin Coils Flat Plate and Coil Waste Issues from 1908-1915" included in the World Series Prix d'honneur. He received the Grand Award at Chicagopex 2022, allowing the exhibit to be automatically entered into the Champion of Champions competition.

Other exhibits of GP members and results are:

Kurt W. Laubinger, large vermeil for "Hand Drawn and Hand Painted Cachets by Water Color Artist Vaughan Hord - 1980-1993."

Dennis Sadowski, gold for his semi-monthly stamp collecting column that appears in The Chronicle-Telegram in Elyria.

Ukrainian connection to GASS

A Ukrainian stamp dealer living in the battle-scarred city of Zaporizhzhia has created a limited-edition cover for the Great American Stamp Show.

Olexandr Skrypka, collaborating with GP member Ed Andros, to develop the cover to mark the national show.

Andros said the two met via transactions through an online auction platform.



The cover will be mailed from Zaporizhzhia. It features the painting "Reply of the Zaporizhzhian Cossacks" by Ilya Repin, a Ukrainian-born Russian

artist. It includes an inscription that reads "Great American Stamp Show/August 2023 Cleveland, Ohio."

The cover can be ordered from Skrypka's eBay store at <http://bit.ly/3OX5GKW>.

Ray Beer: It all started with Mom

Note: GP member Ray Beer offers this reflection on how he started collecting stamps growing up in Lake County.

Mom was the stamp collector in the family, and she encouraged me to participate in this delightful hobby. Although Dad didn't collect, he felt that having a hobby was a critical part of life.



Beer

I don't recall the early specifics, but I do remember receiving a Minkus worldwide album one Christmas when I was around 10. I also recall accompanying my parents on errands to Woolworth's in Willowick and making a beeline to the small stamp section that offered worldwide packets and collecting supplies. The limited selection kept me busy for hours filling spaces in that Minkus album.

I also remember taking the bus downtown with Mom and visiting the H.E. Harris booth at the May Co. on Public Square. It required a trip up the wooden escalator, which was enchanting (and noisy) in its own right. I was in awe of the U.S. stock they carried and soon realized that the prices would keep their delectable morsels out of reach. Mom, however, collected modern U.S. and she allowed me to grab what she didn't need from recent orders from the USPS.

I recall fawning over an unused \$1 Patrick Henry stamp from the Liberty Series. It had no gum, but I was mesmerized by the idea that someone would pay a dollar for a postage stamp.

Third grade club

Joining the third grade stamp club at Washington Elementary School in Eastlake, hosted by Mrs. Bensel, was another revelation into the stamp collecting world. Not only was the social aspect of philately introduced, but I soon discovered that I could generate coin by selling extra stamps that I had soaked and saved to other club members. Cha-ching!

The teenage years reduced the time spent collecting. I still soaked and saved stamps collected from a janito-



The \$5 value of the Fourth Bureau Issue depicting the Statue of Freedom atop the dome of the U.S. Capitol was the first "real" stamp that Ray Beer added to his collection.

rial job at an insurance agency where dumpster diving yielded dividends. It also was the time of the U.S. bicentennial and the multitude of celebratory singles, se-tenants and souvenir sheets continued to captivate.

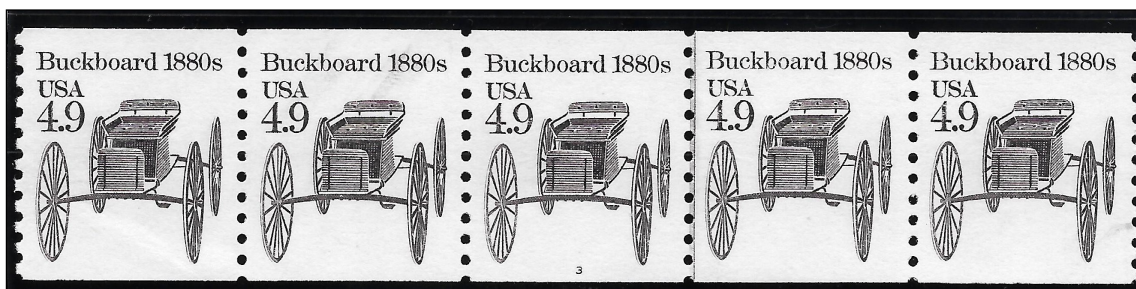
It was time for college and all the money saved went toward tuition. I remember being supremely disappointed that I could not purchase any of the newly issued Transportation coils in the 1980s. Seeing the 4.9-cent Buckboard coil USPS philatelic catalogue sticks out in my mind.

A 'real stamp'

Fast forward to 1999. Big debt prevented me from attending the last APS show in Cleveland, but during the following year, the quest for mint U.S. began. Besides acquiring the most recent U.S. issues the first "real" stamp I purchased was from Jim Bardo at the 2001 March Party. It was the \$5 value of the Fourth Bureau Issue showing the Statue of Freedom atop the U.S. Capitol Dome (Scott 573), mint never hinged.

Later, I met Dave Clark through our USPS branch clerk in Middleburg Heights, and he encouraged me to attend a Garfield-Perry meeting. The rest, as they say, is history.

These days I'm collecting only U.S. stamps that include modern plate number coils, modern no die-cut issues, older mint stamps and modern counterfeits. I also enjoy selling extras on popular online platforms using the handle "Extraordinary Paper."



The 4-9-cent Buckboard coil sent Ray Beer on a quest to learn more about plate number coils.

Upcoming shows

September 15-16: BirmPex, Birmingham Stamp Club, Sokol Cultural Center, 23600 W. Warren Rd., Dearborn Heights, Michigan

September 16: TUSCOPEX 2023, Tuscora Stamp Club, Tuscora Park Pavilion, 161 Tuscora Ave., NW, New Philadelphia, Ohio

October 6-8: INDYPEX '23, Indiana Stamp Club, Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds & Exhibition Center, 2003 Pleasant St., Noblesville, Indiana

October 13-14: MOTOPEX '23, Motor City Stamp and Cover Club, Sokol Cultural Center, 23600 W. Warren Rd., Dearborn Heights, Michigan

October 28-29: Cuy-LorPex 2023, Cuy-Lor Stamp Club, Memorial Hall, 20116 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River, Ohio

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:

September 7: Member participation, "Treasures from GASS."

October 5: Kent Johnson, "Early U.S. Local Delivery."

November 2: Ray Beer, "The 1988 25c Flag Over Yosemite Coil -- A Short Story."



Club Officers

Howard Chapman, president

Ray Beer, vice president

Clint Many, secretary

Ken Nilsestuen, treasurer

Rocco Caponi, Carol Thatcher, trustees

Matt Liebson, legal adviser

Perryscope is published by the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club.

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The club is online at garfieldperry.org
and on Facebook.

When life gets tough, bring out the stamps

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