



Thames Stamp Club Newsletter

March 2022

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The Thames Stamp Club meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, Sept. through June, at 7:30 P.M. at the Clark Lane Middle School, Waterford, CT. All area philatelists are invited. Annual dues are \$10.00. The club's email is tbbee@aol.com. The club's address is PO Box 624, E. Lyme, CT 06333 and on the web at <http://www.ThamesStampClub.org>.

February Recap

Feb 9 – Zoom meeting was called to order at 1930 with seven members in attendance. Charles reported that the Clubs yearly \$100 donation to the Waterford Public Library was received. We received a small donation of postage from Vlaun of Waterford. The usual monthly stamp shows were discussed and it was noted that the New Haven show is on for February. We showed an APS presentation on the history and development of Luminescent Tagging on US postage stamps, Part 3, completed the evening.

Feb 23 – Zoom meeting was called to order at 1930 with nine members attending. We discussed the problem with hand-back cancellations at the Groton Post Offices. We were unable to show our scheduled presentation on the life of a philatelic swindler due to Zoom issues. The usual philatelic discussions completed the evening.

March Meetings

Mar 9 – Zoom meeting. All are invited. Presentation, "Wild Life of a Philatelic Swindler."

Mar 23 – Zoom meeting. All are invited. Presentation, TBD.

March Stamp Shows

12 Mar Norwalk Show @ Norwalk Senior Center, 11 Allen Rd

13 Mar SOPEX 22 @ Elks Lodge, 652 Andover St, Lawrence, MA

20 Mar 3rd Sunday Show @ Eagles Wing Function Center, 10 Spruce St, Nashua, NH

27 Mar 4th Sunday Show @ The Annex Y.M.A. in East Haven

Here and There

It is time to renew your membership in the Club. Dues are \$10/yr. Please mail \$10 to TSC, PO Box 624, E. Lyme, CT 06333. Even though Thamespex is over, you can still get your Thamespex 21 cover honoring the USS Cheyenne. This month's Cover-of-the-Month illustrates a junk mail political advertising cover franked with a 4c Stage Coach. If you have a candidate for Cover-of-the-Month, please send me a scan plus a short write-up. I am circulating the stamp-circuit boxes; if you want to check out the box in your home for a few days, let me know. Everyone please stay healthy and safe. The following link will take you to the APS Mar 1 Newsletter: <https://stamps.org/news/c/news/p/1>

Philatelically yours,

Tony

Tony Bruno

408 C Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002



CAR-RT SORT **CR 17

John J. Goens
308 N W 73rd Terr.
Kansas City, MO 64118



This month's featured cover is another interesting example of modern postal history. The #10 envelope features a junk mail political cover to a recipient in Kansas City, MO. This cover is franked with the 4 ¢ Stagecoach from the transportation series, Scott # 1898Ab. The stamp is Bureau precanceled Nonprofit Org and shows plate # 4 and was printed on Cottrell press. 4 ¢ Stagecoach covers with plate numbers are very rare with few surviving covers. The stamp was released Aug 19, 1982, so the cover was used after that date. It is an example of a discount rate for nonprofit organizations and was referred to as false franking by the postal service. The mailer applied the stamp to each piece and assembled a pack of say 1000 covers and paid the difference in cash for the actual nonprofit rate at the time of mailing. Note that the envelope just above the address is endorsed, "CAR-RT SORT **CR 17." The receipt of mailing would show the additional postage paid for the entire mailing if the rate at the time of mailing was greater than the postage applied or a refund if less than the postage applied at the time of mailing. For example, the nonprofit rate for carrier-route sort from 01/09/83 to 02/16/85 was 3.3 ¢ per piece. Applying the 4 ¢ stamp represented an overpayment of postage of 0.7 ¢ per piece. So the mailer would have received a refund of \$7.00 per 1000 pieces mailed. The cover is a nice representative example of false franking on a very scarce plate # coil cover. Of course, there is no way to reconstruct the actual date of mailing except if the cover retained its original contents which it does not. Most of the time, the contents indicate an approximate period of mailing.