



# Thames Stamp Club Newsletter

April 2024

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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 Waterford Public Library, 49 Rope Ferry Rd, Waterford, CT. All area philatelists are invited. Annual dues are \$10.00. The club's email is [tbbee@aol.com](mailto:tbbee@aol.com). The club's address is PO Box 624, E. Lyme, CT 06333 and on the web at <http://www.ThamesStampClub.org>.

## March Recap

**14 Mar** – Open meeting at the Waterford Public Library with nine members attending. We received an email from Irv noting that our website was not listing all the area stamp shows. Sue indicated that she would look into it. A short auction and refreshments by Sue F concluded the evening.

**28 Mar** – Meeting was called to order at the Waterford Public Library with nine members attending and 2 on Zoom. Sue reported that she checked the website and will add a link to the Northeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs. Members agreed to set Thamespex'24 for Sunday 13 Oct. Several members attended RIPEX and agreed that it was a good show. A discussion on the upcoming Philatelic Show (Boxborough), a short auction and refreshments by John J concluded the evening.

## April Meetings

**10 Apr** – In-person meeting at Waterford Public Library plus Zoom for those who cannot make it. Thamespex hot wash-up cont. There will be a short auction. Charles N. has refreshments

**24 Apr** – In-person meeting at Waterford Public Library plus Zoom for those who cannot make it. Ed D. has refreshments.

## April Stamp Shows

**12-14 Apr Philatelic Show 2024** @ Boxborough Regency in Boxborough, MA

**28 Apr 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Show** @ The Annex Y.M.A. in East Haven

## Here and There

This month's "cover-of-the-month" illustrates a Crosby cachet. If you have a candidate for cover-of-the-month, please send me a scan plus a short write-up. If you have not paid your 2024 dues, please consider doing so today. Dues are \$10/yr. Please mail \$10 to TSC, PO Box 624, E. Lyme, CT 06333. 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 Newsletter:

<https://stamps.org/news/c/news/p/1>

Philatelically yours,

*Tony*

Tony Bruno



This cover was mailed from Fort Richardson (Anchorage) AK, 29 Dec 1941 to Hughson CA. The sender was Sgt. W. E. Alderson to Mr. & Mrs. L. E. Alderson, probably his parents. Hughson is a farming community directly east of San Francisco. The US had just entered the war and there are no censor markings on the cover. The cachet on this cover is attributable to Walter G Crosby who was a prolific Naval and Air-Mail cachet maker. His distinctive raised color ink design is easily recognized; plus there is the added bonus of a photo worked into the design of the ship or aircraft honored. This particular cachet is commemorating the PAA flying boat that opened the Pacific air routes to Asia and the Pacific Islands. Many of the PAA destinations are noted in this particular cachet. In the 1940's the only way to get to Alaska by commercial airline was via the PAA flying boat. The photo shows the Sikorsky flying boat along with a dog sled (a more traditional way of getting around AK in those days). I suspect that the Crosby cached envelopes were available in the PX and were purchased to be used as souvenir envelopes for correspondence home, as this item clearly illustrates. I show some additional examples of Crosby Cached envelopes used for correspondence from the same time period, all with Alaska postmarks. Note that by 1942 censor tapes were added as the two top covers show. The one shown on lower right is identical to my illustrated cover.



Illustrated Crosby covers courtesy of eBay