



# Thames Stamp Club Newsletter

June 2025

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The Thames Stamp Club meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, Sept. through June, at 7:00 P.M. First meeting of each month at the Waterford Public Library, 49 Rope Ferry Rd, Waterford, CT and second meeting of the month at the Groton Public Library, 52 Newtown Rd, Groton, 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>.

## May Recap

**14 May** – Open meeting with six members attending in person and one on Zoom. We showed the Alma R. WW album to members and I mentioned that I received a wholesale bid at the New Haven Show for \$200. We got the Waterford paper work signed and Obie will turn it in as soon as possible. Discussion of upcoming shows and a short auction concluded the evening.

**28 May** – In-person meeting at the Groton Public Library with eight members attending and one on Zoom. Obie reported that the Waterford Community Center has been reserved for Thamespex. Thamespex will be held on Saturday 18 Oct. Refreshments by Obie H. and a short auction concluded the evening.

## June Meetings

**11 Jun** – In person meeting at Waterford Public Library + Zoom for those who cannot make it. John J. has refreshments.

**25 Jun** – In person meeting at the Groton Public Library + Zoom meeting for those who cannot make it. Charles N. has refreshments.

## June Stamp Shows

**6 – 8 Jun NAPEX'25** @ McLean Hilton, McLean VA

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

## Here and There

Brian has again outdone himself with his Thamespex'25 USS George Washington 1<sup>st</sup> missile patrol cover shown below. Summer is almost upon us and we will revert to our summer schedule, hosting at members' homes. Think about hosting a summer meeting and let us know at the next meeting. USS Iowa SSN 797 commissioning covers are still available. There are 10 cancelled, signed and numbered covers left. If you want one, contact me or Obie to reserve your cover. They are \$2.50 each and Self Addressed Stamped Envelope (SASE) please if ordering by mail. 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

# Preview Thamespex'25 Show Cover

## Front and Back

**THAMESPEX 2025**  
USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (SSBN 598)  
FIRST MISSILE SUBMARINE PATROL

**THAMES STAMP CLUB**  
Community Center  
Waterford, CT 06385 - 18 Oct 2025

USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (SSBN 196)

**THAMESPEX STATION**  
WATERFORD, CT 06385  
18 OCT 2025

**FIRST STRATEGIC PATROL**  
BLUE CREW, 15 NOV 1960  
66 DAYS SUBMERGED AT SEA

FREEDOM

**B<sup>2</sup>**

## Cover Insert

*Submarine Dolphins*  
The submarine warfare insignia.  
Enlisted crew members earn "Silver" dolphins  
and Officers "Gold".

*SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia*  
The insignia represents completion of one successful patrol.

★ A Gold star mounted on the insignia indicates an additional successful patrol.  
★ A Silver star mounted on the insignia indicates a total of five successful patrols.

Evolution of United States Navy Fleet Ballistic Class Submarines

SSBN 758 George Washington

SSBN 608 Ethan Allen

SSBN 616 Lafayette

SSBN 640 Benjamin Franklin

SSBN 740 Ohio