



Columbia Philatelic Society

APS chapter #043067

June 2024 Newsletter

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Commentary and updates: It's Father's Day. Time for the 'old man' to shine. There wouldn't be a Father's Day without Mother's Day. Retailers love(d) the holiday honoring moms because there are so many gifts available, many of them sentimental. Fathers, however, don't have the same sentimental appeal mothers do. Many times, dad pays for his own gift.

The first Father's Day was celebrated June 19, 1910 in the state of Washington. It wasn't until 1972, 58 years after President Woodrow Wilson made Mother's Day official, that the day honoring fathers became a national holiday. In that year, President Richard Nixon, in the middle of a hard-fought campaign signed a proclamation making Father's Day a national holiday.

It's with a bit of sadness we say goodbye to Les Hall and his family. They're moving to Cape Girardeau, Missouri to be closer to family. Les will still be in touch with our group as his email address will stay the same (hallw2411@gmail.com). We wish him well.

We sure could use more people at our meetings each month. We're averaging about 25 per meeting but we've got twice as many members. Come for the programs, show and tells and the comradery, being with friends and other philatelists.

For those topical collectors, this month is a treasure-trove. The USPS is issuing stamps featuring a turtle, a corral of horses and more American flags. For first day cover collectors, the city of issue is listed at the end of this newsletter. By the way, the Postal Service also sells its own FDC's. Check out USPS.org.

Every one of us has a story to tell about how you began collecting stamps. Our secretary, Jerry Emanuel, wants to hear about it so he can alert the rest of us through this newsletter. Send your "How I got Started" story to him at jemassoc2@gmail.com.

Our club has a promotional flyer which tells prospective members all about us, what we do, where we meet and the benefits of becoming a member. We'll have some at the meeting. Put them on bulletin boards, in cafeterias, in lounges, any place people congregate.

Fred McGary



The next meeting will be **Sunday, June 16**, 2 p.m. at the TRI-CITY LEISURE CENTER, 485 Brooks Avenue, West Columbia.



A very Happy Birthday to: Fred Monk (4); Mark Newell (5); Michael Williamson (18) and Becky Ferguson (19). Congratulations and many, many more.

PROGRAM:

THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION IN STAMPS.

“In 2000, I was asked to join a 10-day Reformation Tour of Germany, providing the opportunity to visit many of the key sites associated with Martin Luther and the Reformation,” said Les Hall.



Martin Luther was born in Eisleben in 1483. Following three years of secondary education in Eisenach, Luther entered the oldest university in Germany, the University of Erfurt. He was 17. Four years later he received his master’s degree.

“He briefly studied law, but soon began to think about entering into religious service,” Hall added. “He was accepted into an Augustinian monastery in Erfurt.”



Monastic life was filled with prayer, fasting and confession. Luther described this time as a period of deep spiritual despair. His superior encouraged him to seek an academic role. In 1517 he contacted his Archbishop to protest the selling of indulgences by the Catholic Church to raise money for St. Peter’s Cathedral. He sent a list of questions and concerns (the 95 Theses) for further discussion. For example, why was Pope

Leo, who was wealthy, asking poor peasants for money? Soon, the document was nailed on the door of All-Saints Church in Wittenberg. “His actions created quite a stir,” Hall said.



The Pope banned the 95 Theses. Enforcement of the ban fell to Charles V, Archduke of Austria and King of Spain. “He was also the newly named Holy Roman Emperor,

with responsibility to oversee church affairs from Germany to Northern Italy. He summoned Luther to Worms in April 1521,” Hall said.



At the Diet of Worms, Luther was asked to recant his writings, which he refused. He was then declared an outlaw. Despite this verdict, Luther wrote Charles V, trying to justify his position.

The Diet of Worms was commemorated by Germany in 1971 on a stamp picturing Luther before Charles V.



“When he left Worms, he didn’t return to Wittenberg,” Hall mentioned, “He went to Wartburg Castle where he remained secretly for the next year, disguised as the monk

Junkor Jorg.”

Unable to pursue many of his normal activities, Luther turned his attention to doctrinal writing. He also began a translation of the New Testament from Latin into the common German language aided by fellow faculty member, Phillip Melanchthon.

Ironically, his year at Wartburg Castle became one of his most productive periods in his life.

He returned to Wittenberg in 1522 and three years later married Katherine von Bora. “She was one of 12 former nuns Luther had assisted in escaping from a convent three years earlier,” Hall said.

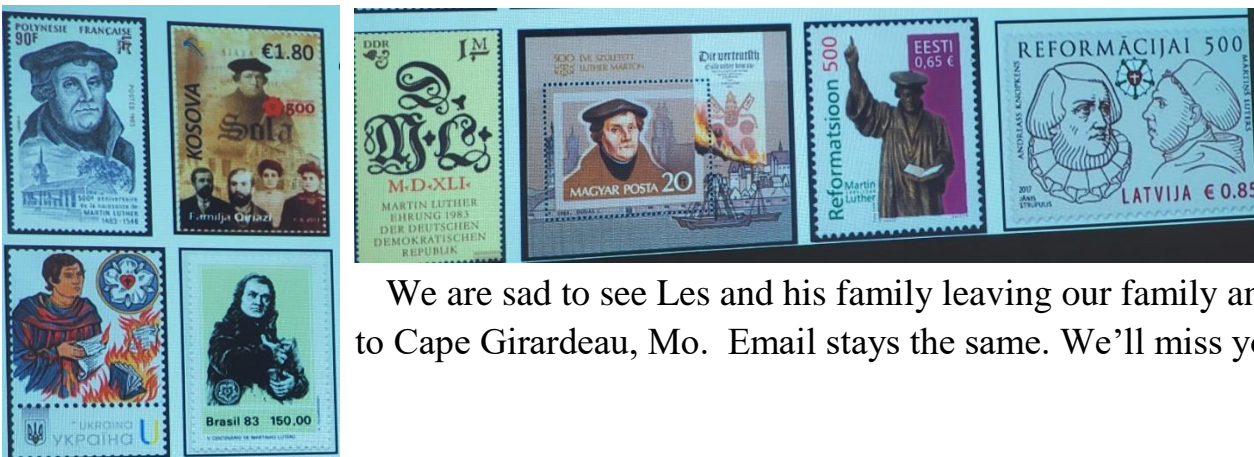
Luther’s marriage prompted much criticism, but also led to many protestant denominations embracing the marriage of clergy. The couple had six children and adopted four others.



Many countries issued stamps honoring Luthor on the 500th anniversary of his birth (1983).

“There was also a surge in stamps relating to the Reformation in 2017,” Hall stated. “500 years after the publication of the Ninety-Five Theses.”

Les Hall



We are sad to see Les and his family leaving our family and moving to Cape Girardeau, Mo. Email stays the same. We’ll miss you.

SHOW & TELL: “Back in 1914, everyone thought WWI was going to be a short conflict,” said Rick Miller.



On June 28, 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary was visiting the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo. At the time, he was inspector-general of Austria-Hungary’s armed forces. In that capacity, he agreed to attend a series of military exercises in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Austria-Hungary had just annexed some provinces a few years earlier against the wishes of neighboring Serbia, which also coveted them.

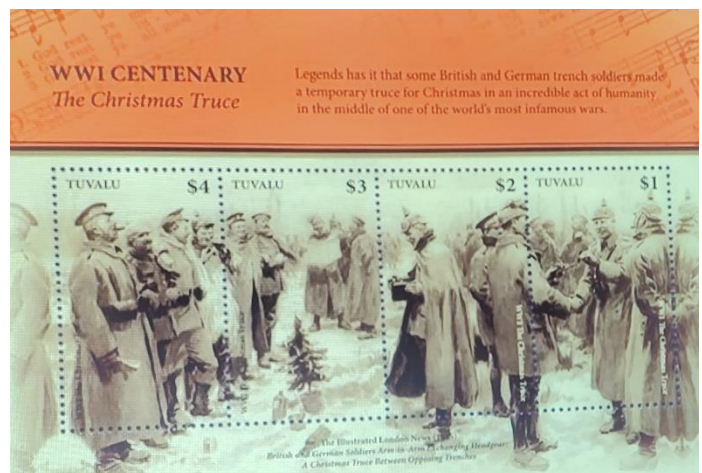
As the motorcade was rounding a corner, a Serbian named Gavrilo Princip walked up to the car and assassinated the Archduke and his wife, Sophie, who accompanied him. For 30 days, Emperor Franz Josef contemplated what to do while waiting for Serbia to accept certain provisions. When Serbia refused to accept one of the conditions, Franz Joseph declared war.

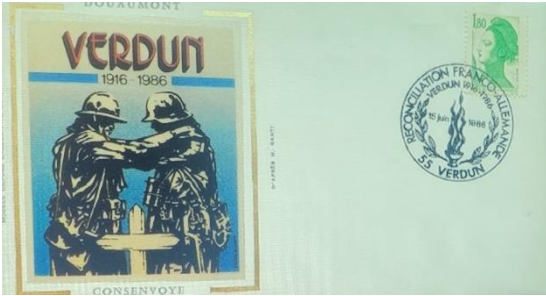


Russia had an agreement with Serbia and declared war on Austria-Hungary. Germany had a treaty with Franz Joseph and declared war on Russia. Russia had a treaty with France. France had a treaty with Great Britain. England had a treaty with Japan and the world went to war.

“On Christmas Eve 1914, opposing sides called an unofficial truce,” Miller said.

“They came out of their trenches, played soccer during the day and exchanged uniform parts. When the higher command heard what they were doing, they stopped the interaction,” Miller added.





“This is a cover I bought when I was in Verdun in 1986. This French cover commemorates the 70th anniversary of the reconciliation,” said Miller.

“The battlefield is still pockmarked from all the shell craters. The forts are still in the same condition and it’s an eye-opener,” he said.

Miller said World War I brought many changes. Tanks were used for the first time. No more horse cavalry. Field telephones to communicate instead of semaphore flags. There was also a change in uniforms, adding camouflage and using other deceptive devices.

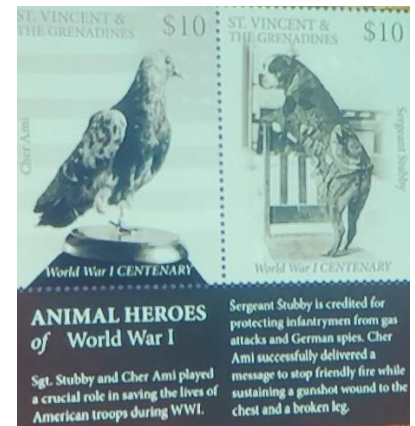
“Observation became more sophisticated. No more hot air balloons that were used during the civil war. Aircraft, helmets, the topography and landscapes also changed. No longer were 30,000 men facing each other on open fields,” he said.

“There were also animal heroes from that war,” Miller said. The right stamp shows Sergeant Stubby who is credited with protecting infantrymen from gas attacks and German spies. On the left is Cher Ami, one of about 600 carrier pigeons employed by the Army Signal Corps. On Oct. 4, 1918, heavy American artillery began raining down on American Troops by accident during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive.

Major Whittlesey and his men watched as every bird sent to tell headquarters to stop bombing their own troops fell to small arms fire from the Germans.

Cher Ami was the last homing pigeon available to get a message to headquarters. Covering 25 miles and wounded by a bullet in the chest she reached headquarters alive but missing her right leg. Because of Cher Ami, American artillery shifted and started shelling German troops.

“These are stamps from St. Vincent and the Grenadines,” Miller concluded.



Rick Miller

WHO'S DOING WHAT?

David Anderson – July program

() – August program

Mick Zais/Chris Lazaroff – September program

() – October program

Bob Anderson – November program

Lewis Boatwright – July refreshments

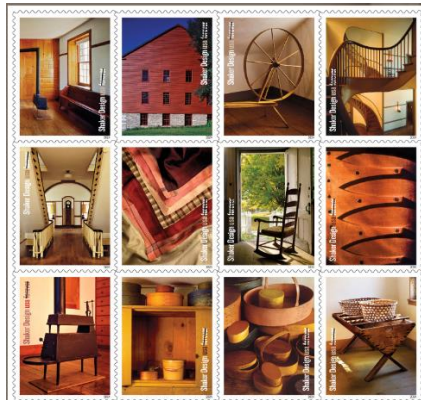
Ken Ferguson – August refreshments

Jerry Emanuel – September refreshments

() – October refreshments

Linda Hazlett – November refreshments

NEW STAMP ISSUES: JUNE 2024



*June 6, Carnival Nights,
Biloxi, Mississippi*
*June 11, Protect Turtles,
Corpus Christi, Texas*
*June 14, Flags, Keystone,
South Dakota*
*June 17, Horses, St. Joseph,
Missouri*
*June 20, Shaker Design,
Pittsfield, Maine*