



# CAPITAL CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

February-March 2022 Issue #2-2022  
Post Office Box 61162, Harrisburg, PA 17106

Web: <https://lcp-s-stamps.org/capital-city-philatelic-society>  
Club Email: CapitalCityPhilatelic@gmail.com

Meetings – 7:00 PM the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday monthly at the Lower Paxton Municipal Building, Room B, 425 Prince Street, Harrisburg, PA

Officers: President: Keith Nonemaker; Vice President: Ray Biemiller; Secretary: Eric Muir; Treasurer: Beth Nonemaker; Board Member 1: Marlin Wilson; Board Member 2: George Shearer; Board Member 3: Mike Marino

Presentations: April 6 and 20: Melody Wilson will give a 2 part presentation on “With Kids in Mind”

May 4: Beth Nonemaker with Exploring Stamps of Egypt, 14 minute YouTube video. If you are willing to make a presentation, please contact Beth Nonemaker.

*Dues Remain \$5 for 2022. Please pay see Eric Muir at a meeting or mail dues to him at 306 Nebinger Street, Lewisberry, PA 17339 – Questions 717-932-5480. Thanks for paying your dues promptly.*

We have reserved the Lower Swatara Fire Hall on September 24, 2022, for the 2022 CCPS’s Stamp Show. Address is Lower Swatara Fire Hall, 1350 Fulling Mill Road, Middletown.

## UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE – 2022 STAMPS



**Global: African Daisy** Issued March 14 - \$1.30 International, Sheet of 10 for \$13 - This round Global stamp can be used to mail a one-once letter to any county to which First-Class Mail international service is available.

**Mountain Flora Stamps** Issued March 14 – Forever 58 cents, Booklet of 20 \$11.60, Coil of 3,000 \$1,740 and a Coil of 10,000 \$5,800

**Title IX Stamps** Issued March 3- Forever 58c; Sheet of 20 for \$11.60 Commemorates the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of Title IX, a civil rights law prohibiting discrimination on the base of sex.

**Palace of Fine Art** Issued February 14 – Priority Mail Express \$26.95 Each, Mini Sheet of 4 \$107.80 This stamp celebrates the iconic architectural landmark in Marina District of San Francisco.

**Monument Valley Stamps** Issued February 14 – Priority Mail, Sheet of 4 \$35.80 – The stamp celebrates the landscape of the American West

**Edmonia Lewis** Issued January 26 – Forever 58 cents, Sheet of 20 \$11.60 -This 45th stamp in the Black Heritage series honors sculptor Edmonia Lewis.

**Lunar New Year: Year of the Tiger** Issued January 20 – Forever 58 cents; Sheet of 20 \$11.60 – Orange is the lucky color markings of Bengal tigers

**Love 2022** Issued January 14 – Forever 58 cents, Sheet of 20 \$11.60 - The new Love stamps celebrate the joy that flowers bring. Inspired by old European folk art, the stamps feature illustrations designs in three round, stylized blooms ranging along the top, with smaller round blossoms in the lower corners.

**Blueberries** Issued January 9 as 4 cent additional postage – Sheets of 20 \$.80, Coil of 3,000 for \$120 and coils of 10,000 \$4. It features a pen, ink, and watercolor of a cluster of blueberries.

**U.S. FLAG** Issued January 9 – Forever 58 cents are available as Sheets of 20 \$11.60: Coils of 100 \$58.00 and Coils of 10,000 for \$5,800. The stamp is a painting of three flags in a circular formation, reminiscent of the 50 flags encircling the Washington Monument.

**OFFICERS INSTALLED FOR 2022-23 ARE:** President: Keith Nonemaker, Vice President: Ray Biemiller; Treasurer: Beth Nonemaker; Secretary: Eric Muir; Board Members: George Shearer, Marlin Wilson, and Joe Berlin. The Alternate Board Member will be George Rohrs. The election was held, and all candidates approved.

**NEW CCPS MEMBERS:**

Coleman Toth can be contacted at [coleman.linda321@gmail.com](mailto:coleman.linda321@gmail.com). Cole collects U. S. only, plate blocks, Golden Rep., 1<sup>st</sup> day covers from 1948.



Purdy can be contacted at [Roy-Purdy56@aol.com](mailto:Roy-Purdy56@aol.com). Roy collects U. S. and World Stamps



Deb Wolford can be contacted at [dlwolford@yahoo.com](mailto:dlwolford@yahoo.com) She collects U. S., Great Britain, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and the British Commonwealth. Deb is an APS member and also jointed Susquehanna Valley Stamp and Post Card Club.



### **STAR ROUTES** By Donald Hacker

An Act of March 3, 1846, took steps to reduce mail transportation costs. Congress abandoned its preferences for stagecoaches, with contracts to be awarded to the lowest bidder for what “may be necessary to provide for the due celerity, certainty and security of such transportation.” There were known as “celerity, certainty and security” bids. Postal clerks shortened the phrase to three asterisks or stars (\*\*\*) . The bids became known as star bids and the routes became known as start routes. In 1845 more than two-thirds of the Post Office budget was for transportation costs. By 1849 transportation costs were reduced by 17% because of star routes when contractors switched to horseback cutting per-mile costs from 7.2 cents to 4.5 cents. Contractors were bonded and took an oath of office. The typical 4-year contract did not provide payment for missed trips, regardless of weather conditions. Unexcused service failures could result in fines up to three times the trip’s price.

Regular schedules made carriers easy targets for thieves. Anyone found guilty of robbing carriers could receive five to ten years for the first offense and death for the second office. Mail carriers faced the hazards of snow, avalanches, ice packs, cliff hugging roads, seas of mud, and dangerous waters plus they had to provide their own equipment.

Over the years star route carriers delivered mail by horse, horse drawn vehicles, boats, sleds, snowshoes, skies, trucks, tractor trailers, automobiles, mules, airplanes, hovercraft, dog sleds, snowmobiles and parachutes. In 1948 Congress allowed the Postmaster General to renew four year contracts rather than award a new contract to the lowest bidder. In the 1970s start routes officially became known as highway contract routes, although popular usage of the older term continues.

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In 2002, there were approximately 17,300 highway contract routes.

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On an autumn day in 1888, a shaggy dog took its first step toward becoming a postal legend when he crept into the Albany, New York Post Office. He soon started to ride the mail trains and the mail clerks recorded his travel by attaching metal tags to his collar. His travels took him farther and he stayed longer eventually visiting Mexico, Canada, Japan, China, Singapore, Suez, Algiers, and the Azores. His name was Owney and his preserved body is in the National Postal Museum. In 2011 a stamp was issued to commemorate Owney, Scott #4547.



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Eric Muir distributed updated rosters that included information on **Roy Heller**, a life member. A corrected phone number for Roy Purdy is 717-460-7364.

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**MAIL PROCESSING** (from the February 15, 2022, edition of the West Lebanon/Dauphin County of The Fishwrapper)

During a hectic night of mail processing at the post office, a number of letters fell off an elevated conveyor belt and scattered onto the floor. Before the area supervisor had a chance to pick them up, the facility manager, who had a reputation for being stern, came upon the scene.

“Why is this mail on the floor?” he demanded angrily.

Without hesitation the supervisor replied, “Gravity, sir.”