



# CAPITAL CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

April-May 2022 Issue #3-2022  
Post Office Box 61162, Harrisburg, PA 17106

Web: <https://lcps-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 – Alternate Board Member – George Rohrs

## Presentations:

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. Mike Marino is connecting vendors to participate.

## UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE – 2022 STAMPS



**Sunflower Bouquet Stamps** – Issued March 24, Two Ounce \$.78, Sheet of 20 for \$15.60, Five sunflowers as part of a bright and beautiful bouquet; this stamp can accommodate the weight of heavy invitations for birthdays and other celebrations

**Tulips Stamps** - issued March 24, Forever \$.58, Sheet of 20 for \$11.60; A perennial source of beautiful flowers provoke a swirl of emotions that transcendent words; it offers a cheerful panorama of tulips that evoke positive feelings

**Shel Silverstein Stamps** – Forever \$.58, Sheet of 20 for \$11.60; One of the 20<sup>th</sup> century's most imaginative authors and illustrators. *The Giving Tree* book and his quirky poetry are loved by children everywhere.

**George Morrison Stamps** - Issued April 22, Forever \$.58, Multiple Designs, Sheet of 20 for \$11.60; A modernist artist and founding figure of the Native American modernism. He challenged ideas of what Native American Art should be.

**Eugenie Clark Stamps** – Issued May 4 , Forever \$.58; Sheet of 20 for \$11.60; Honoring pioneering marine biologist Eugenie Clark “Shark Lady”. She conducted important studies providing insights into shark biology.

**Women’s Rowing Stamps** – Issued May 13; \$.58 Forever; Sheet of 20 for \$11.20 with four different designs; This celebrates women’s rowing a graceful but demanding sport where women have excelled.

**Mighty Mississippi Stamps** – Issued May 23; Forever \$.58; Sheet of 10 for \$5.80 with 10 photographic stamps; The Mississippi River is at the core of the nation’s heritage and often referred to as America’s backbone.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

### **REACHING OUT TO EVERYONE** By Donald Hacker

Before 1863, postage paid only for the delivery of mail from Post Office to Post Office. Citizens picked up their mail at the Post Offices. Postmaster General Montgomery in his 1862 report to the President suggested free delivery of mail by salaried letter carriers. An Act of Congress on March 3, 1863, provided that free city delivery be established at Post Offices where income from local postage was more than sufficient to pay all expenses of the service. Americans had to put street addresses on their letters. In 1864 free city delivery was established in 65 cities and by 1900, 15,322 carriers provided service to 796 cities.

Initially, carrier’s hand-delivered mail to customers. If a customer did not answer the carrier’s knock, ring, or whistle, the mail remained in the carrier’s satchel to be redelivered when the customer was home. Originally, letter carriers work 52 weeks a year, typically 9 to 11 hours a day Monday through Saturday, and if necessary, part of Sunday. In 1844 they were granted 15 days of leave per year and 8 hours was established as a full day’s work. They were paid for any additional hours. The 40-hour work weeks was established in 1935. Carriers walked up to 22 miles a day carrying up to 50 pounds of mail. They delivered mail generally twice a day to homes and up to four times a day to businesses. The 2<sup>nd</sup> residential delivery was discontinued on April 17, 1950. In the mid 50’s a carrier’s load was reduced to 35 pounds and remains the same today.

In 1890 nearly 41 million people lived in rural areas. Most city dwellers enjoyed free home delivery since 1863 but rural citizens had to pick up their mail at the Post Office. Postmaster General John Wanamaker who served from 1889 to 1893 thought it made more sense to have one person delivery mail than to have 50 people ride into town to

collect their mail. He proposed that rural customers receive free delivery and on October 1, 1890, Congress authorized \$10,000 to evaluate the “practicability” of delivering mail to small towns of 300 to 5,000 people and nearby rural districts. It was suggested that each Postmaster hire a man for an hour or two a day to deliver the mail or that school teachers give the mail to pupils for delivery to parents or neighbors. Twelve communities were selected for what was called village free delivery and the results were satisfactory. People further away from more heavily populated areas still had no delivery.

On October 1, 1896, rural free delivery service began in Charles Town, Halldown and Uvilla in West Virginia. Within a year 44 routes were underway in 29 states. On December 20, 1899, the Post Office decide to experiment with extend RFD across the entire county.

Postmaster General Charles Smith ordered that 63 small Post Office and the routes of 35-star route contractors and mail massagers be discontinued and that rural free delivery be established in their place in Carroll County, Maryland. Country-wide delivery proved valuable. Judged a success, rural free delivery became a permanent service effective July 1, 1902. The word “free” was dropped in 1906, since it was understood. Farmers helped by putting out boxes for the rural carriers – everything from lard buckets and syrup cans to old apple, soap, and cigar boxes. In 1901 Postal officials decided a standardized box would improve service and asked manufacturers to design boxes to the following specifications: The box must be metal, 6 by 8 by 18 inches and weather-proof. Boxes should be constructed so they can be fastened to a post at a height convenient to the carrier without alighting. Keys for customers’ boxes should be easy to use by a carrier with “one gloved hand in the severest weather”. Rural carriers sold stamps and money orders, registered letters, and, in short, served as traveling Post Offices. Carriers supplied their own transportation – usually horses and wagons until 1929 when improved roads caused a change from horse-drawn vehicles to motor cars.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~



The first special 4-cent Christmas stamp was issued in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on November 1, 1962, at the annual convention of the National Association of Postmasters. The stamp was available until December 31.

Its purpose was to make available a stamp that was seasonable decorative and provide special handling for greeting cards. There were 500 million stamps printed on the Giori press in green and red on white paper.