

WILLAMETTE STAMP & TONGS

THE NEWSLETTER OF SALEM STAMP SOCIETY



Volume 51 Issue 2

CELEBRATING 91 YEARS 1933-2024

February 2024

WEBSITE www.salemstampsociety.org



From the President's Desk.

HAPPY NEW YEAR to all! And, YIKES! The USPS has done it again - raised postage by 2¢ (on 1/21 to 68¢). I am surprised there was little to no announcement or news beforehand. I guess they figure with "FOREVER" stamps it really doesn't matter to folks, or they can sneak it by the unsuspecting. PRO - if a FOREVER stamp was issued in 1950 for 3¢, it would have increased in value by 2200%. CON - a 3¢ stamp issued in 1950 is still worth only 3¢! Even so, I really miss the old days with values on the stamp, and real GLUE!

A warm welcome to our newest member **Bradley Bowen**. Our current membership tally is 96. STAMPEX is coming soon (March 17th). Mark your calendar and get your want lists ready!

INFO SHEETS - The club publishes a new "Membership Directory" every two years. The new 2024-2026 edition will be coming out this Spring. Pete McCallum does a great job maintaining, updating, and printing our roster. BUT it will only be as accurate and up to date as the information YOU provide! Please, be sure to fill out a new information sheet ASAP (below), even if you are a long time member.

Mike Braet

January 2024 Meeting.

Our first meeting of the year was well attended with about 35 in the room and 4 calling in on Zoom. The main event was a members' auction. There was some lively bidding on a number of items and just over half of the 60 lots were sold for a total of \$430. Five lots were sold to members attending on Zoom.

Steve Staton gave a very entertaining "Show & Tell" talk on the exhibition that he is preparing for PIPEX 2024. The theme for his 4 frame exhibit is based on postcards for famous performers at Las Vegas shows including one

for Ronald Regan.

Treasurer Alan Maul was busy collecting Membership Dues for 2024. If you have not yet paid him please see him at the next meeting or send a check payable to Salem Stamp Society to P.O. Box **202**, Salem, OR 97308. You are reminded that you have to be a member to place bids in our auctions. Membership costs \$10 for an individual or \$15 for a family.

Salem Stamp Society

P.O. Box 202

Salem, Oregon 97308

www.salemstampsociety.org

President	
Mike Braet	503 363-6581
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Club News & Meetings.

February 2024.

Plate Varieties on U.S. Engraved Issues

Our February 17th meeting will include a presentation by **Bob Grosch** on one of his specialties, plate varieties on engraved U.S. stamps.

Plate varieties encompass those stamps where one or more individual stamps differ from the others on the sheet, often differing from how the stamps were intended to appear when printed.

Plate varieties differ from the broader category of “Errors, Freaks, and Oddities” (EFOs) which include alterations to the appearance of the stamps due to something other than the printing plate itself, such a perforation error, splashed, missing, or smeared ink, color varieties, off center misprints, etc. EFOs can also be created by temporary interference of foreign matter on the printing plate.

A true plate variety is strictly the result of the printing plate itself and will ordinarily recreate the variety on every copy of the stamp on every turn of the printing plate. (See example below)

Although less common, some plate varieties can change as the printing process proceeds. An example of this is a crack in the printing plate which grows in length as the plate repeatedly receives pressure during stamp production.

In preparation for February’s presentation members may wish to review the illustrations in the front of Scott’s specialized catalog which illustrate the process used to make the engraved printing plates.

Bob has donated to the club a large multiple of the 1968 U.S. Christmas stamp with a plate variety on two stamps in the 10 stamp block. This donated item will be included in the raffle offerings at the February meeting.

Bob Grosch

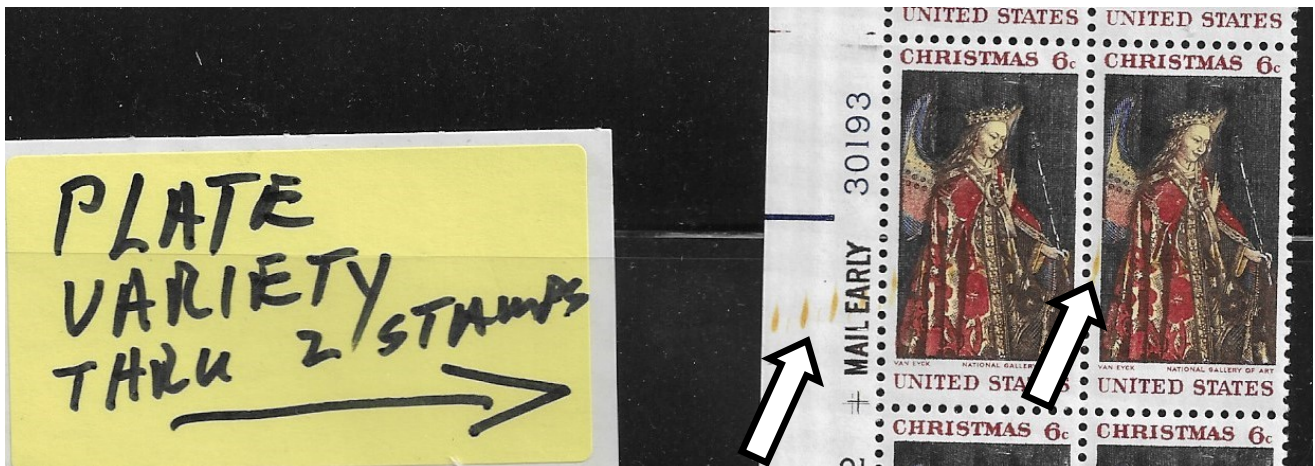
Details of the Bid Board for the February Meeting are given in this Newsletter and also on our web site.

February also marks the **91st Anniversary** of our Society—be sure to come along and celebrate the Club’s birthday!

Salem Stamp Society 2024 Program Calendar

Lisa Janz

Month	Event	Program
Jan 20	Members' Auction	
Feb 17	Bid Board	Bob Grosch “Plate Varieties on US Engraved Stamps”
March 20	Bid Board	Marc Dochez “Wine Revenues & Topicals”
April 17	Bid Board	Mike Braet “Identifying 3 rd Bureau Washington – Franklins”
May 15	Swap Night/ Small Bid Board	
June 19	Club Auction	No Program
July 17	Member Auction	
August 21	Bid Board	
Sept 18	Bid Board	
October 16	Swap Night/ Small Bid Board	
Nov 20	AGM, Club Auction	No Program
Dec 4?	Christmas Party	No Program



Cats and the Mails.

Bob Reynolds announced at the February meeting that he is now Treasurer of the “Cats on stamps study unit” of the American Topical Association. He would be pleased to provide members with more information on the activities of this ATA group.

Cats have been a popular theme for stamps for many years but there is also a link between cats and a less well known aspect of postal history. A blog from the Postal Museum in London by Annie Duffield in 2018 has a good story to tell.

As some homeowners know to their cost, mice and rats will gnaw and destroy all sorts of materials as well as eat most foodstuffs. They will also shred paper to create nesting material. The London Money Order Office in 1868 had a real problem with a plague of mice that were destroying a lot of valuable items of mail. The Controller of the Office appealed to the Secretary of the Post Office for help by adding three cats to the payroll. He requested 2 shillings per week for food and upkeep on the reasonable basis that cats at the British Museum were allowed 1½ pence per day.

P.O. Secretary Tilley approved the three cats on probation. They would need to be tested for their ability to catch mice and the scheme evaluated for effectiveness in controlling the vermin. To encourage their mousing skills he reduced their allowance to 1 shilling per week so that they would not be overfed. He wrote that the cats must depend on the mice for the remainder of their emoluments.

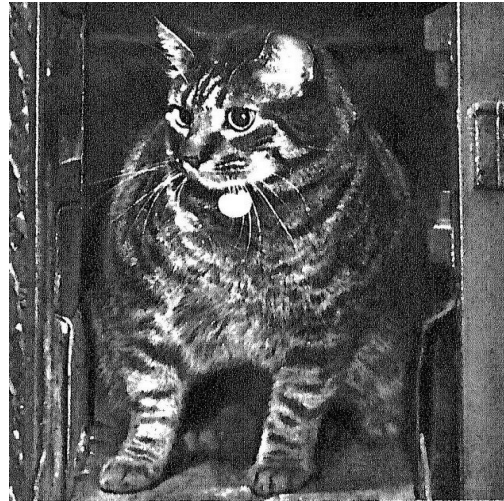
In 1869 the Controller reported back to Tilley that the scheme had worked very well although he could not say whether it was due to the reduced rations or the cats’ zeal and devotion to duty.

Cats continued to be used to control vermin in Post Office headquarter buildings in London for many years—apparently at the same pay rate! In the 1950’s the resident cat, “Tibs”, achieved a degree of fame. His portrait appeared in a 1953 book titled *Cockney Cats* and he attended a “cats and film stars” party in London.

Despite his friendly appearance Tibs was a superb mouser and kept the Post Office HQ completely free of vermin for 14 years. He became something of a celebrity in the neighborhood and had many visitors keen to see him. Whether it was all the at-

tention he received or a plentiful supply of mice he weighed in at 23 pounds and was given the nickname of “Tibs The Great”.

The question of his and his friends’ emoluments fixed at Victorian rates was the subject of discussion in Parliament and subsequently adjusted by the Postmaster General.



Tibs died in 1964 and was given an obituary in the *Post Office Magazine* in 1965 with his picture (shown above). The last P.O. HQ cat “Blackie” died in 1984 and has not been replaced.

A similar report on the effectiveness of cats as mousers for the USPS is given by Erin Blakemore in the *Smithsonian Magazine* of February 2016. Cats were widely employed and there was even a Superintendent of Federal Cats in 1904! One famous feline employee from Washington in the 1920’s is shown below. This is “Old Tom” and a pretty mean looking character.



Salem Stamp Society

2024-2026 Membership Directory Information Sheet

We would like to include you in the 2024-2026 Salem Stamp Society Membership Directory. Please fill out this form and include only information you wish to have published in the directory. Do not refer to previous directories. All information collected is for member use only and is not to be given out to nonmembers.

Your dues must be current for your information to be included in the directory.

Please complete this form as soon as possible and mail to Pete McCallum, 370 Ironwood Terrace, Woodburn, OR 97071, scan and email to pimac@web-ster.com, or bring to a monthly meeting.

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: Business _____

Home _____

Cell _____

Email: _____

Collecting interests (please limit to 6 areas):

Other stamp memberships:

Salem Stamp Society

February 2024 Bidboard

LOT #	COUNTRY	DESCRIPTION	SCOTT #	CAT		NOTES
				VALUE	MIN BID	
1	United States	1859 6 cent Lincoln, Used, Star Cancel	159	\$ 18.00	\$ 4.00	0
2	United States	1893 30 cent Columbian, Used, Trimmed Perfs	239	\$ 90.00	\$ 10.00	0
3	United States	1898 5 cent Trans-Mississippi, Used	288	\$ 25.00	\$ 5.00	0
4	United States	1902-3 Regular Issue Short Set, (1 cent -50 cent) Used	300-10	\$ 68.00	\$ 15.00	0
5	United States	1904 5 cent Louisiana Purchase, Used	326	\$ 22.50	\$ 5.00	0
6	United States	1904 10 cent Louisiana Purchase, Used, cpl short perfs	327	\$ 27.50	\$ 5.00	0
7	United States	1907 1 cent Jamestown Expo, Mint HR	328	\$ 27.50	\$ 8.00	Nicely Centered!
8	United States	1907 2 cent Jamestown Expo, Mint HR	329	\$ 30.00	\$ 7.00	0
9	United States	1914 1 cent Washington Coil, Used	443	\$ 45.00	\$ 10.00	0
10	United States	1917 8 cent Franklin, perf 11, MNH	508	\$ 25.00	\$ 7.00	0
11	United States	1917 12 cent Franklin, perf 11, MNH	512	\$ 17.00	\$ 5.00	0
12	United States	1917 13 cent Franklin, perf 11, MNH	513	\$ 21.00	\$ 8.00	Nice Stamp!
13	United States	1918 1 cent Washington, MNH	525	\$ 17.50	\$ 5.00	0
14	United States	1920 \$2 Franklin, Used	547	\$ 40.00	\$ 10.00	0
15	United States	1920 5 cent Pilgrim Tercentenary, Used	550	\$ 30.00	\$ 6.00	0
16	United States	1923 2 cent Harding, Imperf	611	\$ 9.00	\$ 3.00	0
17	United States	1923 2 cent Harding, Perf 10, MNH	612	\$ 32.50	\$ 10.00	0
18	United States	1924 2 cent Huguenot Walloon, MNH	615	\$ 7.00	\$ 3.00	Nice Stamp!
19	United States	1924 5 Cent Huguenot Walloon, Used	616	\$ 13.00	\$ 4.00	0
20	United States	1925 5 cent Norse American, MNH, Margin Single	621	\$ 19.00	\$ 6.00	0
21	United States	1977 Booklet Pair, MNH	1623bc	\$ 15.00	\$ 5.00	0
22	United States	1976 Set of BiCentennial S/S, MNH	1686-9	\$ 30.25	\$ 8.00	0
23	United States	1992Columbus S/S, MNH	2624-9	\$ 30.50	\$ 12.00	0
24	United States	1997 Humphrey Bogart Pane of 20 MNH	3152	\$ 17.50	\$ 8.00	0
25	United States	1998 \$1 Trans-Mississippi Pane of 20, MNH	3210	\$ 22.50	\$ 9.00	0
26	United States	1879 1 cent Brown Postage Due,	J1	\$ 12.00	\$ 2.00	0
27	United States	1884 10 cent Red Bown Postage Due, Used	J19	\$ 35.00	\$ 10.00	0
28	United States	1916 1 cent Postage Due, MNH, Tear at top	J61	\$ 15.00	\$ 2.00	0
29	United States	1913 \$1 Parcel Post, Used	Q12	\$ 40.00	\$ 10.00	Philadelphia
30	United States	1958 Federal Duck Stamp, Used	RW25	\$ 12.50	\$ 3.00	0
31	United States	1998 Federal Duck Stamp, Self Adhesive, MNH	RW65a	\$ 35.00	\$ 11.00	0
32	United States	12 Different Coil Pairs, MNH, A few line pairs included!	0	\$ 8.25	\$ 2.00	0
33	United States	1987-9 Misc Commemoratives - Face \$26.50	0	\$ -	\$ 25.00	0
34	United States	1999 3 different Booklet Panes, MNH	0	\$ 69.50	\$ 18.00	0
35	United States	1960's-1990's 28 Diff Plate Bloack, MNH - Face	0	\$ -	\$ 15.00	0
36	Abu Dhabi	1970 Sheik and Stallion partial set, Mint LH	56-63	\$ 27.75	\$ 6.00	0
37	Australia	1913 9p Kangaroo & Map, Used, Faded Color	9	\$ 37.50	\$ 5.00	0
38	Australia	1934 Views Set, Used	142-4	\$ 35.75	\$ 10.00	0
39	Australia	1935 Anzac Set, Used	150-1	\$ 45.50	\$ 10.00	0
40	Faroe Islands	1980's 4 Different Booklets, MNH	0	\$ 60.00	\$ 10.00	0
41	France	1860 1c Napoleon, Used, Grn on pale blue paper	12	\$ 62.50	\$ 15.00	0
42	Great Britain	1869 6p Used, trimmed on left side	51	\$ 90.00	\$ 9.00	0
43	Great Britain	1902 3p Edward VII, Used	132	\$ 19.00	\$ 3.00	0
44	Korea	1970 Paintings Set, MNH	718-20	\$ 30.00	\$ 9.00	0
45	Korea	1970 Imperf Paintings Set, MNH	718A-20A	\$ 50.00	\$ 15.00	0
46	Togo	1997 Princess Diana Royal Gowns Plate Block of 9,	1798	\$ 7.50	\$ 2.00	0
47	Zaire	1978 25th Anniversary of QEII Coronation S/S, MNH	891	\$ 12.00	\$ 3.00	0
48	Guatemala	175 Mint and used, a few MNH, pre 1975	0	\$ 100.00	\$ 10.00	0
49	Hungary	500-600 mint and used, a few S/S all pre 1975	0	\$ -	\$ 10.00	0
50	Mexico	500-600 mostly used and pre 1975	0	\$ -	\$ 15.00	0
51	Misc N&O Countries	100+ mostly pre 1970, mostly used	0	\$ -	\$ 3.00	0
52	Panama	Several 100 pre 1970 mostly used	0	\$ -	\$ 10.00	0
53	Penrhyn Is	Misc Sets and Sheets 1970's-80's, almost all MNH	0	\$ 85.00	\$ 15.00	0
54	Reunion	60+ Stamps, mostly Used pre 1960	0	\$ -	\$ 5.00	0
55	Ryukyu Is	175-200 mostly mint, Duplication	0	\$ -	\$ 5.00	0
56	Slovenia	1991-2 17 Different Issues, MNH	0	\$ 27.80	\$ 6.00	0
57	Sweden	Mini Collection - 6 MNH Sets	0	\$ 37.35	\$ 8.00	0
58	Yugoslavia	350-400 pre 1975, most used	0	\$ -	\$ 10.00	0
59	Misc Africa	Hodgepodge of sev 100 Mint, MNH, used	0	\$ -	\$ 10.00	0
60	Misc British	Hodgepodge of sev 100 Mint, MNH, used	0	\$ -	\$ 20.00	0

Salem Stamp Society

February 2024 Bid Board



Lot 1



Lot 2



Lot 3



Lot 9



Lot 4

U.S. USED
Scott # 300-310
2018 Scv \$68.00



Lot 6



Lot 7



Lot 8



Lot 10



Lot 11



Lot 12



Lot 13



Lot 14



Lot 15



Lot 16



Lot 17



Lot 18



Lot 19



Lot 22



Lot 21



Lot 26



Lot 27

Salem Stamp Society

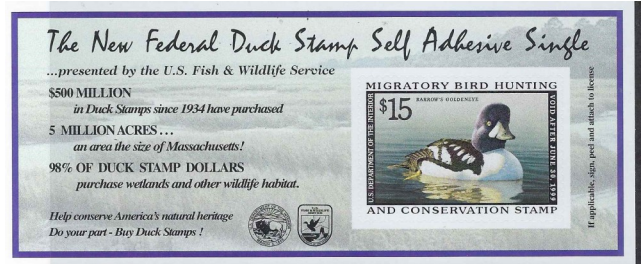
February 2024 Bid Board



Lot 29



Lot 30



Lot 31



Lot 32



Lot 36



Lot 37



Lot 38



Lot 39



Lot 41



Lot 42



Lot 43



Lot 44



Lot 45



Lot 47



Lot 46

Salem Stamp Society

P.O. Box 202

Salem, OR 97308

Meetings

All meetings held at the Scottish Rite Center, Commercial St. S , Salem.

Saturday 17th February 2024.

10am Start, Doors open at 9am

Program: "Plate Varieties on US Engraved Stamps" by Bob Grosch; Bid Board

Wednesday 20th March 2024

7pm Start, Doors open at 6pm

Program: "Wine Revenues & Topicals" by Marc Dochez

Pacific NW Stamp Shows and Bourses 2023

Local Events

Willamette Valley STAMPEX, Sunday March 17th

Scottish Rite Center, Commercial St S, Salem

Doors open at 10am

Repetitive Events:

Oregon Stamp Society: Rose City Stamp Fair -

2nd Saturday of the month at OSS clubhouse

4828 NE 33rd Ave., Portland 9:00am-3:00 pm

Collectors Corner - 4th Saturday of the month

at OSS clubhouse 9:00 am.- 3:00 pm

2023-4 Major Shows:

PIPEX 2024, May 3, 4 & 5 2024 at The Monarch Hotel and

Conference Center, 12566 SE 93rd Ave.. Clackamas, OR 97015