

# Green Bay Philatelic Society Newsletter

GREEN BAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY 2214 Allouez Ave., Green Bay, WI 54311

President: Mark Schroeder 920-337-9616 Vol. 41 No. 1 January 2021  
Vice President: Dave Carney 920-750-3117  
Secretary: Ray Perry 920-660-2154 Editor: Ray Perry 920-660-2154  
Treasurer: Kirk Becker 920-680-1063

**JANUARY MEETING: Zoom Meeting, Go Packers!**

**WHERE: THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME**

**300 S. Adams St., Green Bay, WI 54301 (when we meet)**

**WHEN: January 21, 2021 (third Thursday of every month)**

**TIME: No Business Meeting in June, July, and August**

**PROGRAM: Virtual Philately Through the Month**

*Reminder: We need a volunteer member to pick up a key from the Senior Center by 4:00 pm on the day before the meeting or the day of the meeting. January's volunteer is **Ray Perry** again 😊.*

## December Meeting

We only had four members show up for our virtual Christmas party. Four members does not constitute a quorum, therefore there was no formal business meeting. Treasurer, Kirk Becker did give an update on the state of the treasury – we remain in good shape.

## Committee Reports

N/A.

## Unfinished Business

Recall that a few months back one of our members, Darlene Waterstreet, suggested a topic for a future stamp. She suggested we issue a stamp to commemorate the All-American Girl's Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL). We wrote up the proposal for the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC) and sent it off. We recently heard back from the USPS that our proposal had been received and was being held for further review, this does not mean it will

become a future stamp, only that the proposal will be further reviewed and considered for its merits. The letter goes on to say that each year the CSAC receives hundreds of suggestions for stamp subjects. The good news is that we made it past the first step, the bad news is there is a long way to go.

## New Business

N/A.

## December Program

Ray Perry presented his eight-page non-competitive exhibit that he put together for WISCOPEX and MILCOPEX a year or two ago. The name of the exhibit was "Christmas Near and Far." It included covers from our own state of Wisconsin and interesting town names like Snowflake, VA to far away places like Greenland and Sweden. My personal favorites are the two hand-painted covers shown at the top of the next page.



Hand-painted covers from  
Christmas, FL and Santa Claus, IN

The four of us had a good time, but we continue to long for the days when we can once again meet in-person. In the meantime, we'll continue with the Zoom meetings. I am still working on a program for this month's meeting, we will meet via Zoom on January 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. as usual. We'll have a brief social meeting, then our customary business meeting (let's have a quorum this month – I think that is seven members). That will be followed by a program. I'm working on something with a foreign slant to it. I'll try to announce it shortly before the meeting. The Zoom link is:

#### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81947476297?pwd=WVA2Yjh3aG45dzFUdTluTnpscXJxdz09>

Meeting ID: 819 4747 6297

Passcode: 824171

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,81947476297#,,,,,0#,,824171# US  
(New York)

+13017158592,,81947476297#,,,,,0#,,824171# US  
(Washington D.C)

#### Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 819 4747 6297

Passcode: 824171

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kjLhIkTy>

If you are unsure of all of this, please, please, please feel free to give me a call at (920) 660-2154 and ask me about it.

## Future Programs

If anyone is interested in doing a program on some aspect of their collection, let me know. I'll be happy to get you on the schedule for a future meeting.

## Ray's Ramblings

Last month this part of the newsletter was basically written by the participating membership. Sure, I put them into the newsletter, but the material came from you. I really enjoyed putting it together as many of your memories brought back memories of my own. From the number of entries I received, I'm guessing that many of you had fun participating as well. Actually, I had so much fun reading all the comments about the favorite stamps, that I think I'll try another one of these. How about if for the June issue we do a favorite summer activity. That should give us some warm thoughts through the winter months. Here is how we'll do it, each person interested in participating, please send me the Scott Catalogue number of a stamp depicting your favorite summer activity along with a couple sentences of why it is your favorite summer activity. It could be fishing, baseball, hiking, visiting a park, gardening, etc. The stamps can be U.S. or foreign. You get the idea, please just send me the Scott number of the stamp and why it is your favorite summer activity. Please get me your entry by May 20, 2021. It will be here before you know it, warmer days are ahead. I'll compile the entries and put them in the June issue of our newsletter. If I'm burning you out with this concept, please let me know.

So, where to this month? In the past we have traveled to warmer climates during the winter months. This month let's go somewhere wintery. Let's embrace our northern climate and head to a beautiful Scandinavian country. Let's head to the cold, clean, crisp air and snow. Let's head to Finland.



Stamp showing the flag of Finland, Scott #604

Finland is a country in northern Europe. It is bordered on the west by Sweden, on the east by Russia, on the north by Norway, and on the south by the Baltic Sea. The capitol and largest city is Helsinki. It's population was estimated at about 5.5 million people about a year ago. Finland has a unitary parliamentary republic form of government. Over the years Finland has had to fight to maintain its independence from Russia.

Finland was pretty much an agrarian society until the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Finland industrialized, and its economy grew. In the past 10 years, Finland has been at or near the top in a number of measures of national prominence including education, economic competitiveness, and quality of life. It has been ranked first on the World Happiness Report for the past three years.

As most of us stamp collectors know, the Finnish word for Finland is Suomi. We don't have to travel too far from Green Bay for some exposure to the Finnish culture. There is a large population of people of Finnish descent living in Michigan's Upper Penninsula.

Early stamps of Finland were issued while the country was still a Grand Duchy of the Russian Empire. These stamps show various Coats of Arms and are very similar to some of the early Russian stamps. A stamp from each country is pictured at the top of the next column.



Finland, Scott #52



Russia, Scott #36

These stamps always confused me when they were all together in a mixture of stamps. As a matter of fact, they still do.

In 1917, when Finland declared its independence from Russia they issued the "Helsinki Issue" showing the coat of arms of the new republic. An example of these stamps is shown below.



Finland Helsinki Issue, Scott 107

This coat of arms is found on several issues of Finnish stamps through the years.

The first commemorative issue I found in the Scott catalogue was issued in 1929 and commemorated the 700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the city of Turku. Turku is a city located on the southwest coast of Finland where the Aura River flows into the Baltic Sea. There were three stamps in the issue. They honored Turku with images of the S. S. Bora leaving port, the Turku Cathedral, and the Turku Castle. Scott #157 (the Turku Castle) is pictured at the top of the next page. The castle is a medieval castle built on the bank of the Aura River. Today it is the most heavily visited museum in Finland.



Turku Castle

Finland has a rich tradition of being very competitive in certain winter sports including cross-country skiing, ski jumping, and ice hockey. As such, they have issued various stamps over the years to commemorate some of these events. Shown below is one showing a ski jumper flying through the air and another showing a cross-country skier.



Ski jumping



Cross-country skiing

Ice hockey was also mentioned above as a sport that Finland has excelled at. Who could forget that after the U.S. beat the U.S.S.R in the "Miracle on Ice" game in the 1980 winter Olympics, they had to come from behind in the third period to beat Finland for the gold medal. In fact, Finland hosted the World Ice Hockey Championships in 1965. That event was commemorated on the stamp shown below.



Finland Scott #427

In addition to the better than 1,200 regular stamps shown in my 2007 Scott catalogue, Finland has issued 265 semi-postal stamps and another 35 back of the book stamps. Many of the semi-postal stamps were issued to benefit the Red Cross or for the prevention of tuberculosis. Shown below is one of each (note the respective crosses).



Red Cross



Tuberculosis

What review of Finland and her stamps would be complete without a sauna. The stamp below shows this Finnish sauna heating up.



Finland Scott B96

I wanted to include something on Aland in this newsletter too, but ran out of space. Maybe another time.

Don't forget the Zoom meeting on January 21. We will start at 7:00 p.m., the sign in information is on page 2 of this newsletter.

See you all on Zoom on January 21.