THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SAN ANTONIO PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION FOUNDED 1896

The PHILATEX

STAMPS.ORG
APS Chapter #53-0388

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TPA Life Chapter #3

Meeting Calendar for Third Quarter 2026

Visitors Are Always Welcome!

	July 2026		August 2026		September 2026
3	NO MEETING – Independence Day	7	Board Of Governors Meeting Program: "Show and Tell"	4	NO MEETING – Labor Day
10	Board Of Governors Meeting Program: "Show and Tell"	14	Club Auction – Guests Welcome	11	Board Of Governors Meeting Program: "Show and Tell"
17	Club Auction – Visitors Welcome	21	Bourse – buy, sell, & trade Guests Welcome	18	Club Auction – Guests Welcome
24	Bourse – buy, sell, & trade Guests Welcome	28	Stamp Program: TBD or Bourse	25	Bourse – buy, sell, & trade Guests Welcome
31	Stamp Program: TBD or Bourse				

All meetings are held at the **MacArthur Park Lutheran Church**, 2903 Nacogdoches Road, San Antonio, TX, 78217 in Building 1, which faces Nacogdoches Rd. Doors open at 6:30 PM, BOG meetings begin at 7:15 and all other meetings begin at 7:30.

WE WELCOME VISITORS

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SAPA is always happy to welcome visitors. We hope you will enjoy our activities and wish to join us as members. All visitors are welcome to purchase stamps at our auctions and bourses. Anyone wishing to sell or trade at our meetings must be a member. If you own a business or have access to a public place, please post a copy of the front page of the Philatex in a prominent location.

New Members

SAPA added new member **Radek Lhotsky** last quarter, who was officially approved on June 5, 2026. Radek lives in New Braunfels and his primary collecting interest is early Czechoslovakia, his country of birth. In addition, although his application has not officially been approved yet (a mere formality), **David Keown** has also joined SAPA. David's primary collecting interest is US stamps. Please join me in welcoming Radek and David to the club!

Thank You Steve Mabie!

On behalf of the SAPA Board of Governors and the entire membership of SAPA, I would like to thank Club member and former treasurer/newsletter editor Steve Mabie for his outstanding support and contributions to the San Antonio Philatelic Society. Steve is having challenging health problems associated with cancer. Steve served as treasurer and newsletter editor since 2024 and has been a member since 2014. He also helped with the monthly auctions as the cashier, a job that is more difficult than it looks. As the club treasurer, Steve completed the club income tax returns and coordinated the financial audits. Steve attended meetings regularly and I really enjoyed trading stamps with him. Typically, his wife Nancy Mabie accompanied him.

New SAPA Treasurer – Mark Brill

Welcome and thanks to Mark Brill, who has graciously stepped up to fulfill the office of SAPA Treasurer. Mark is a professor of Music History at UTSA and, more importantly, a stamp collector. The Board of Governors has full confidence that Mark's transition into the office will be seamless.

Philatex Archives

Individually archived issues of **The Philatex** are now available on the SAPA website (https://www.sastamps.org/archive.html). Currently, the archived issues go back to March 2008, and earlier issues will be added in the future. Continuing thanks go out to our webmaster, **Arlen Greer**, who tirelessly keeps our web site up to date and accurate in accordance with the latest security standards.

Talking Stamps

Some 4th of July stamp humor inspired by Mad Magazine's "Talking Stamps," written and published by Frank Jacobs.

Feature Article: First US Flag Stamp **(summarized from the Mystic Stamp Company web site)**

On July 4, 1957, the US Post Office issued its first stamp with the US flag as the central element. It was also the first stamp printed by the Giori press, which allowed the design to be printed in its natural colors in one step. Previously, the US flag had appeared as a part of the design of several stamps, such as the Eagle and Shield Pictorial, the Francis Scott Key stamp, and 1952 Lafayette issue. In 1957, the US Post Office

announced that it would issue a brand new stamp with the flag as the central design and appearing in its natural colors. In 1957, the flag contained 48 stars and is listed in the Scott catalog as number 1094.

Upon hearing the news, some collectors and citizens were outraged. Because the stamps would be canceled, they saw it as disrespectful. They flooded the post office with angry letters citing American legal code that prohibited the reproduction of "the national emblem for disloyal or commercial purposes." Conversely, many people were also happy about the stamp, praising its beautiful colors and patriotic design. The Post Office stated the stamp was meant to be a reminder of America's heritage and hard-won liberty.

Exactly two years later, the US flag was again the central focus of a stamp issue, this one depicting the 49-star flag that recognized Alaskan statehood that was issued in Auburn, New York (Scott 1132). One year later, the 50-star flag was the central focus that recognized Hawaiian Statehood and which was issued in Honolulu (Scott 1153).

See the full story here, including beautiful high-definition, full-color images (https://info.mysticstamp.com/first-us-flag-stamp_tdih/).

Error in Stamp Design

Here is an item provided by SAPA member Howard Wallace. Can you spot the error in the design of the stamp?

For the answer, see the last page of this newsletter.

SAPA Auction Guidelines

Recently the SAPA monthly auctions have been very well attended, most of the lots have been sold, and everyone seems to be having a great time. I thought it would be good to publish the guidelines for our auctions so that new members will feel comfortable bidding and selling and as a reminder for the more experienced members. Note that the purpose of the auction is primarily to **Have Fun** and to pick up some really great deals!

First, be sure to get your Bidder's Number card before the auction starts. To do this, look for the bidding sheet and sign up next to an unused bidder number.

Come early and look over the auction lots before the auction. During the auction, lots will be identified by their lot number and the brief description of the lot that appears on the auction card. Arriving 30 minutes prior to the auction will give you plenty of time to peruse the lots before the bidding begins.

When bidding on a lot please raise your Bidder’s Number card and keep it up until you no longer wish to bid. Flipping the card up and down is confusing for the auctioneers. If you are the winning bidder, please keep your card raised until the details of the sale have been recorded.

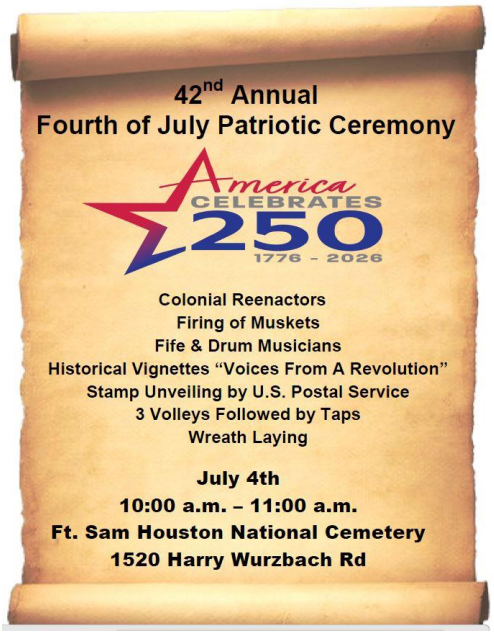
Please keep extraneous conversation to a minimum. This makes it easier for everyone to hear what the auctioneer is selling, helps the auctioneer to keep track of the bidding, and allows other club members to hear what is going on during the auction.

Your purchases will be given to you during the auction. However, your final payment will be calculated after the auction has been concluded. SAPA is required to collect sales tax and taxes are calculated for each purchase. Your name will be called as the tallies are completed. Those who are only buying will be called first. Buyers who are also sellers will be called next. Checks made out to S.A.P.A. are accepted. Sellers with unsold lots should be sure to pick up their lots before leaving.

Please be sure to return the Bidder's Number cards so that we can use them again in the following auctions. And most of all: **Have Fun**!

Stamp Unveiling Event in San Antonio, July 4th

Member Joe Perez provided the following announcement sponsored by a history group of which he is a member. It's a Fourth of July Patriotic Ceremony to be held at Fort Sam Houston from 10 to 11 am. Note that there will be a Stamp Unveiling by the USPS during the event. The stamps to be unveiled are 25 different stamps in a pane entitled "Figures of the American Revolution." No stamps will be sold on site so as to maintain a respectful dignity of the hallowed grounds of the national cemetery.



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Write to SAPA

San Antonio Philatelic Association
c/o Al Lozano
13530 FM 1560N
Helotes, TX 78023

Upcoming TSDA Shows

Hours for all TSDA shows are Friday 10 – 5 and Saturday 9 – 4

July 17-18, Houston TSDA, Hilton Garden Inn, 12245 Katy Freeway (I-10 and Dairy Ashford Exit), Houston.

August 21-22, Dallas TSDA, Holiday Inn & Suites, 3220 Craig Drive, McKinney.

September 18-19-20, GREATER HOUSTON STAMP SHOW, Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Road, Humble TX 77338. (Friday 10-6, Saturday 10-5, Sunday 10-4)

Mark your calendars now for the next San Antonio stamp show

October 9-10, SAN ANTONIO TSDA, Norris Conference Center, 618 Northwest Freeway Loop 410 (across San Pedro from the North Star Mall), San Antonio, TX 78216

The San Antonio and South Texas Postcard Club meets on the third Monday of each month at 6:00 at the Granados Adult and Senior Center, 500 West Freiling, San Antonio. Gathering begins at 6:00 and the meeting starts at 6:30.

Coming Soon!

Look for the next issue of **The Philatex**, which is tentatively scheduled to be sent in August. The issue will signal a return to a bimonthly schedule for **The Philatex**. If you would like to submit an article or would like to see an article written about a philatelic topic, please submit your ideas to Jim Durham at any meeting or email me at jsdurham4@gmail.com. I am always looking for interesting and relevant topics for the newsletter.

Error in Stamp Design answer: The smoke from the engine is blowing left to right, while the flag is blowing right to left.