

The Kicking Mule

The Monthly Newsletter of the Indiana Stamp Club

Serving Hoosier Philately since 1928

Volume 64, Number 04, February 2025

Website: www.indianastampclub.org

April Program – Clothes Line Exhibits

Meetings of the Indiana Stamp Club are held on the first Monday of each Month at the Lawrence Community Center located at 5301 N. Franklin Road, Lawrence, IN. The clubhouse is approximately ¼ mile south of 56th Street, on the east side of the road. The parking lot is well lit at night. Doors open about 6:00 P.M. with dealer set-up, selling, and social hour from 6:30 P.M. until 7:30 P.M. The club meetings begin at 7:30 P.M., followed by refreshments and the program of the evening.

Meetings are highlighted by door prize drawings, a mini-auction consisting of about ten philatelic items, a brief show-and-tell segment, discussion of upcoming stamp exhibitions in the area, and introduction of visiting collectors and guests. Come check us out.

Some notes on our upcoming May Program

Michelle Stahl will give us an overview of the Youth Program. Following her presentation there will be a mini-auction to raise funds for the Youth Group. Michelle will bring 10 lots and any member may also donate additional lots. The funds realized will go to the Youth Group. No personal auction lots will be accepted in this special mini-auction. There will be no regular mini-auction for the May meeting.

This Day in Postal History

April 1,
1845, the first commercial telegraph service begins, under the Post Office Dept.

1855: Prepayment of postage is made compulsory; previously, the recipient could pay.

1973: USPS allows male letter carriers to wear shorts during the summer.

April 2,
1959, ground broken for the first fully automated post office in the U.S., in Providence, RI. A stamp honoring it was opposed by the Stamp Advisory Committee, concerned that many blamed automation for more unemployment.



April Program



- 1) Put together 4 pages of something you think members of the Indiana Stamp Club would like.
- 2) Clip them to the clothes lines with an identifying clothes pin provided by the club.



- 3) After the business meeting members will vote on their favorite. Winning exhibits earn Indy Bucks for their owners.
- 4) Exhibitors will give a 3 to 5 minute explanation of their pages.



The Kicking Mule is the monthly newsletter of the Indian Stamp Club, serving Hoosier Philately since 1928. Our newsletter's name references a famous historic carved cork fancy cancel from Waterbury, Connecticut used in the 1850s.

Officers

President – Tom Chastang
 Vice President – Jeff Quick
 Secretary – Carrie Eschenbrenner
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Assignments

Tom Chastang: INDYPEX, Spring StampFair, Club Auctions

Bob Boynton: INDYPEX

Randy Marcy: INDYPEX, Webmaster

Jeff Quick: ISC Publicity

Jim Lawler: Kicking Mule Editor, INDYPEX

Vince Ross: Indiana Postal History Liaison

Bob Zeigler: INDYPEX, Legal Matters

Dennis Danielson: INDYPEX, Club Table at Monthly meetings

Michelle Stahl: INDYPEX, Refreshments, Youth Services and 4-H

David Murphy: INDYPEX bourse

Carrie Eschenbrenner: Board Meetings

Doug Tracy: Spring Stamp Fair

Kurt Streepy: IndyPex

Rick Nelson: Membership Director

John Becker: INDYPEX, Club Auctions

Sharon Newby: Indypex

Contact Information

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April 1st April Fools Day

The Day everybody may play the fool.

Court jesters conjure images of medieval feasts, where the fool, brightly dressed and belled, would entertain his Lords guests with mockery, mimicry, and jests. The role of the Fool, however, predates the medieval period. The Egyptians Pharaohs enjoyed being entertained by their fools as much as their later counterparts in Europe. Even the Romans loved a Fool, especially the “farting jesters” who, according to St Augustine could “produce at will such musical sounds from their behind (without any stink) that they seemed to be singing from that region.”

If the tradition of the fool was an ancient one, it was also much more varied than we imagine. For the role of the Fool was about much more than telling jokes and entertaining the aristocracy. For although many fools were mentally or physically disabled, others were highly trained, skilled individuals who acted as popular entertainers at carnivals and fair. Then there were the wise fools with a broader role, the councilors, and comforters whose advice even Kings would heed. These fools often acted as political go-betweens- even going into battle.

By the 11th and 12th centuries, medieval Fools fell into the general category of Minstrels or ‘Little Servants. The term covered a whole range of entertainers besides jesters, including acrobats, musicians, and singers. However, “little servant” was an appropriate term for the household fools. For jesters were expected to perform a much broader role in the household than keeping people amused.

excerpts from:

<https://historycollection.com/the-many-roles-of-the-medieval-fool>

Up Coming Programs 2025

May 5: Youth Program Overview

June 2: Club Auction #2 Starts at **7pm.**

July 7: Member’s Bourse

August 4: TBA

September 1: Button Auction & Set-Up

October 6: TBA

November 3: Club Auction #3 Starts at **7pm.**

December 1: Holiday Party **There will be a mini auction & selling at the meeting.**

Please share program ideas with Jeff Quick

Up Coming Area Philatelic Events

Later in 2025

MSDA show – April 12th and 13th

July 12th and 13th

November 8th and 9th

St. Louis Stamp Expo

March 21st to 23rd



Great American Stamp Show '25

WHEN: August 14-17, 2025

Thurs. - Sat. 10 - 6 p.m. • Sun. 10 - 4

LOCATION:

Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center

1551 North Thoreau Dr., Schaumburg, IL 60173

Some "unusual" April Month Recognitions

Adopt a Ferret month



Amateur Radio month



Car Care month



Confederate History month



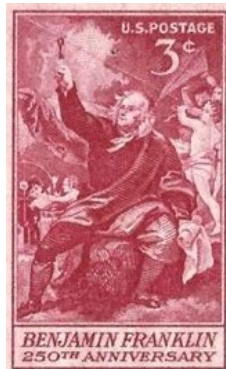
International Guitar month



National Frog month



National Kite month



National Licorice month



Straw Hat month



Tulip month



World Habitat Awareness month



UK HABITAT STAMP



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Please provide a business card to *The Kicking Mule* Editor.



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