



Utah Philatelic Society

Since 1946

P.O. Box 295, Midvale, UT 84047-2950

Fall 2025

News & Events

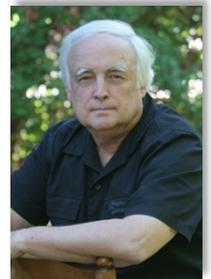
STAMP SHOW: Oct. 10-11, 2025. Join the Utah Philatelic Society for a regular Club stamp show. Held at Sons of Utah Pioneers Building. Friday; 10-6; Sat; 10-4.

Invite a friend or family member to join you

STAMP SHOW: Centennial Stamp and Postcard Show will be held in Golden, Colorado on September 19 and 20.

President's Corner

This is my second-to-last message in the newsletter, as we will have elections in December for a new executive committee including president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. I do not intend to run for re-election, having served a total of four terms as president, and we have a good supply of talented and (hopefully) willing individuals who can run to fill this important role.



Steve Baldridge

It's time for someone else to take the reins, so please be present at the first meeting of December to cast your votes. The Winter edition of the newsletter will be published later in that month to announce the new executive committee.

Since the Summer issue, there hasn't been much to brag or complain about. We have a sound financial footing, thanks to some prudent spending and an increase in our dues at the beginning of the year. We also adjusted the club's percentage of its take on auction items sold, making it more consistent with the percentages employed at other clubs around the country.

As a result, the board has decided it's time to purchase the latest edition of the Scott's Catalog (2026), which we were fortunate to obtain at this date. Apparently, Amos has decided to print their catalogs *on demand*, meaning that they print only when a print order has been received, earlier in the year. Dave Blackhurst was able to find a set through connections that most of us don't have. Once the catalogs have been received, in October, we'll put the 2020 edition up for auction. As standard procedure, the 2026 catalogs will not be available to take home at this point, but the 2023 volumes will be available for checkout.

My time as president for the past four years has been rewarding, and I hope that feeling is reciprocated by the club membership. Thank you for the opportunity, and I encourage you to give your full support to the new president and executive committee.

Editor's note:

Send news items, ideas, and suggestions to james.degoover@gmail.com. Thanks.

Will Postage Stamps become Extinct?



The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) has been going out of business for 50 years, or so it seems. Their business model of continually raising prices combined with lowering products and services appears to be untenable.

And yet, the post office lives on.

While a complete extinction of U.S. postage stamps is unlikely in the foreseeable future, their usage has been significantly impacted by the shift towards digital communication.

Here's why stamps are unlikely to disappear entirely:

- **Continuing Demand for Physical Mail:** People still send letters, postcards, greeting cards, and packages, requiring postage for delivery.
- **Business Mail:** Many businesses continue to utilize physical mail for certain communications, marketing, and essential documents.
- **Trust and Reliability:** Some individuals and businesses perceive physical mail as a more reliable and trustworthy communication method compared to the abundance of digital messages.
- **Stamp Collectors:** Philately continues to be a popular hobby around the world. Collectors and dealers keep up demand for new stamp issues.

Did you know?

The world's longest-lived mail delivery system exists to this day in India. Called the Dak or Dawk system, this organization can be traced back to Roman relay runners. Dak runners carried the mail over long distances by inserting it in a stick, split down the middle. The East India Company ran the system while Britain controlled India. During that time, postal inspectors were employed, and timekeepers kept the runners on schedule.

Member Spotlight



Joe Ferguson, 79, was born in Provo, Utah and his family later moved to Salt Lake when he was nine years old.

“The next year, my aunt gave me a stamp collecting kit for Christmas. It was the best present I ever received. I have continued to collect stamps ever since,” says Joe.

“I would save my allowance and go to the local Sprouse Reitz store where I could buy an orange bag of 1,000 stamps on paper for one dollar. I had lots of fun soaking them off the paper and mounting them in my album,” he recalls. “As a kid, I was fascinated by stamps. I used to ask neighbors to save every stamp they could find on mail, postcards, and packages.”

Over the years, he amassed thousands of stamps and numerous collections. In 2003, Dave Blackhurst suggested that he take a table at a local stamp show, and he has been buying and selling ever since and continues to have a table at every stamp show.

Joe graduated from the University of Utah in 1970 with a degree in Spanish. Shortly after graduation, he joined the Army and attended the Army language school where he learned German before being deployed to serve two years in Germany.

Joe met his wife, Colleen, at Temple Square in Salt Lake where she worked in the Bureau of Information. They have been married for 56 years.

“We have four children: Cindy, Steven, Scott and Deborah. We have 13 grandchildren and three great grandchildren,” says Joe.

Today, he continues to collect stamps from all around the world, especially European countries with his favorites being Netherlands, Germany, Italy and France.



One of his favorite stamps is the Cyrenaica 25a. It is an Italian stamp that was supposed to have a “*Cyrenaica*” **overprint**, but it was omitted. It has a catalog value of \$4,250.

Joe has served as president or vice president of the Utah Philatelic Society several times over the years, most recently as president from 2017-2021.

“Phamous” Philatelists

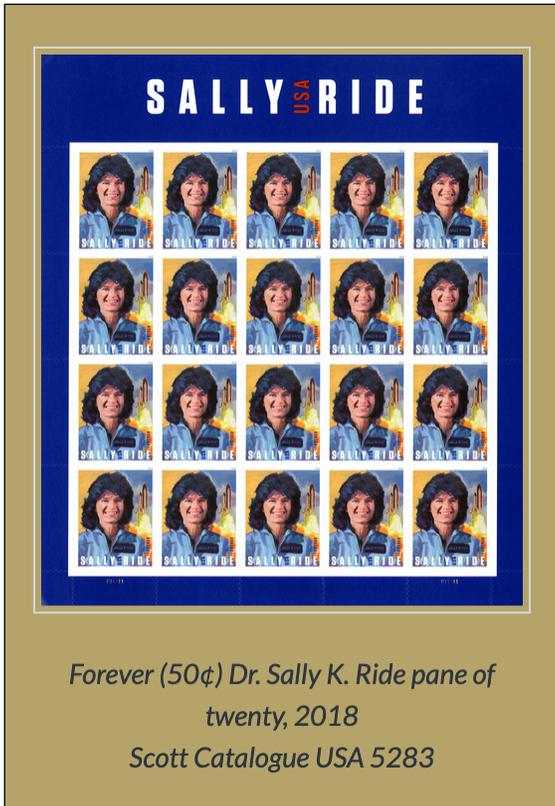
This issue’s “famous” philatelist is astronaut and educator Sally Ride.

Dr. Sally Ride (1951-2012) started collecting stamps at age nine and continued throughout her life. Her personal collection was accessioned into the National Postal Museum’s permanent collection in 2018.

It includes seven stock book albums and one folder. The albums contain a variety of covers, stamps and other philatelic materials that she collected from the US Postal Service and foreign countries.

Sally Ride became the first American woman in space when she flew on the STS-7 shuttle mission in 1983. Her second and last space mission was STS-41G in 1984. A physicist with a Ph.D., she joined the astronaut corps in 1978 in the first class of astronauts recruited specifically for the Space Shuttle Program. She also led the task force that produced a visionary strategic planning report in 1987, titled “NASA Leadership and America’s Future in Space” but known popularly as the “Ride Report.”

The Sally Ride stamp was issued May 23, 2018. The stamp art, sketched first in charcoal and then rendered in oil paint, features a colorful portrait of Ride in her light blue space suit with a dramatic depiction of a space shuttle lifting off in the background.



Coin and Collectibles Show

Utah Philatelic Society member Dave Blackhurst organized a Coin & Collectibles show on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 1-2, 2025 in the Sons of Utah Pioneers building.

“We are fortunate to have a strong community of collectors in Utah. Shows like this help grow interest in both coin and stamp collecting as a hobby and as a business.”

Over the weekend the show attracted more than 200 people, a noticeable increase from previous events. Several local residents brought items and collections to be appraised and purchased by coin and stamp dealers.

A total of nine coin dealers were present, including Bob Uzelic, Utah; Glen Beckstead, Utah; Robie Cagle, Utah; Chris Robertson and Ralph Mueller, Utah; Dick Pettit, Twin Falls, Idaho; Jeff Arbogast, Utah; Rich Adams, Los Angeles, Calif.; and Ron Swain, Utah.

In addition, four local stamp dealers were present, including Dave Blackhurst, Joe Ferguson, Kyle Nybo, and Jerry Pitstick.

The total inventory on hand – especially in coins – was estimated to be several million dollars, making it one of the larger shows in the region. Security was provided by the Salt Lake County sheriff’s office.

“I really appreciate Linda Sorenson from the Sons of Utah Pioneer building for all her assistance. Thanks also to my wife for providing food during the show, and the volunteers who sit at the front table and help people register,” says Dave.





Utah Philatelic Society

Since 1946

Established in 1946, it is the purpose of the Utah Philatelic Society to:

- Encourage, create and develop greater interest and activity in the field of philately.
 - Assist members to build bigger and better collections by providing greater opportunities to obtain philatelic material.
- Formulate and put into effect programs designed to increase philatelic knowledge.
 - Cultivate and encourage tolerance, honesty, sportsmanship, generosity and good fellowship in all our associations.

Club Meetings

Sons of Utah Pioneers Building
3301 East Louise Avenue
Millcreek, UT 84109

First and third Thursday of each month
at 7 p.m.

Online: <http://www.utahphilatelic.org/>

Club Officers

President: Steve Baldrige
Vice-president: Craig Edwards
Secretary: Judy Maxfield
Treasurer: Dee Bird

Board Members: Rick Leimbach, Don Forbes,
Vladimir Makarov, Rick Hendricks,
Jack Paradise

Newsletter: Jim DeGooyer

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