

The Lilac Hinge

Inland Empire Philatelic Society, PO Box 3731, Spokane, WA 99220 http://ieps-stamps.com/ APS Affiliate 0343-030681

> **Meetings:** 2nd & 4th Tuesdays (except July & December), Spokane Valley Eagles, E. 16801 Sprague

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November-December Meetings

November 9, "You Be the Dealer Night"

The Board meeting starts at 6:30. Then, at 7:00, we will have our annual "You Be the Dealer Night." Bring your duplicates priced and ready for sale. Grab a table and be ready to sell to your fellow members. No fees will be taken by the club, so the profits are all yours. A lot of fun and a lots of interesting material will be there. Plan on attending.

November 23, Donation Auction

The November program is our annual Donation Auction. You can bring philatelic items, plants, books, baked goods or other food items, or anything you can think of. All proceeds from the sale go to Spokane Valley Eagles, and it is our way of thanking them for providing a free place to hold our meetings.

Bring plenty of items at reasonable prices and make this a fun night for all. Philatelic items that do not sell become the property of the club. Non-philatelic items that do not sell must go home with the person who brought it.

November 23, Board of Directors Election

This year, terms are up for Chuck Jones, Anne Harris, and Kevin Dixon. Chuck and Anne are running for re-election, but Kevin has decided to step down. So far, Richard Ascaso, has been nominated to the Board, but more nominations can be made at the November 23 meeting. We have three positions to fill, and each is for a two-year term. Serving on the Board is a good way to support the club. Contact any current Board member if you would like to run.

December 14 Holiday Dinner

Don't miss our annual holiday dinner on **December 14** at 5:30 at the Eagles. The menu includes a choice of prime rib or salmon, dinner roll, green beans, baked potato, and dessert. The cost is only \$12.50. Guests are welcome.

Sign up at the November meetings, or you can contact Ken Rehfeld (kenrehfeld@comcast.net or 924-6375).

Specify your dinner choice.

A lively "steal a gift" exchange follows the dinner. Gifts can be philatelic or non-philatelic, but should be new and cost no more than \$10. You need not be a member to participate. This will be the only December meeting.

2022 Dues Reminder

Dues of \$10 per member or \$14 for a family can be paid starting now and through the end of December.

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas!

This is the last issue of the *Lilac Hinge* for 2021. Best wishes to all for an enjoyable holiday season!

Canada's 1898 Imperial Penny Post Issue





-By Larry Mann

On December 25, 1898, Canada issued what is often referred to as the world's first Christmas stamp. Although issued on Christmas Day and bearing the words "Xmas 1898," the main purpose of the stamp was to commemorate the extension of the "Imperial Penny Post" throughout the British Empire.

Beginning on December 25, 1898, a one penny rate, equivalent to two cents Canadian, covered the basic first class letter rate between most parts of the British Empire, with the exception of the Australian states and

a few other places. The rate was designed as an inexpensive way to tie together the different parts of the British Empire via the mails.

The design features a large world map, with the heading of an imperial crown directly over Canada and between the words "Canada Postage." The map shows the different parts of the British Empire in red. The design was based on a popular world map published by George R. Parkin in 1893. Parkin was a longtime advocate of unity in the British Empire. He suggested the map design when Canadian Postmaster General Sir William Mulock (1843-1944) consulted Parkin for ideas for a suitable design.

Below the map is "Xmas 1898" and the words "WE HOLD A VASTER EMPIRE THAN HAS BEEN." These words were taken from "Song of Empire," a poem written by the British poet Sir Lewis Morris (1833-1907) to celebrate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887.

Some 20 million copies of the stamps were printed from December 1898 to December 1899, and Mulock ordered that half be printed with the ocean in lavender (Scott #85) and half in blue (Scott #86). Other shades exist.

2021 Officers

President J Palmer
Vice President Anne Harris
Secretary Bill Ailes
Treasurer Ken Rehfeld
Director Ken Owens
Director Kevin Dixon
Director Chuck Jones

