

**November 4, 2023 Business Meeting Minutes
Gulf Coast Stamp Club**

Called to order at 1:30 pm by President Rob O'Dell. Members attending 12 with 0 guests. Quorum requirement met and meeting is Official (See Attachment 1 – list of attendees). Meeting held at St. Martin Library Meeting Room.

Approval of September and October 2023 minutes

The September and October minutes were approved as posted on the website.

Treasurer's Report – Mike Kayes

Treasurer's Report approved as read. (See Attachment 2 – Treasures Report)

Standard Agenda Items

Website Update– Felix (per Bob)

1. Added the Southeast's Gathering of Stamp Collectors to the Upcoming Stamp Shows posting.
2. The template for GULFPEX 2024 is ready. Felix will update it as soon as he receives information within the next couple of months (Floor plan, Dealers, Prospectus, Silent Auction)
3. If anyone has pictures of an event or wants to submit a short article related to stamp collecting, It can be added to the GCSC website blog. The blog is limited (Weebly does not support a comment section). This is due to Weebly being acquired by Squarespace. Next year (no specific date), the GCSC website will transition to Squarespace (hosting).
4. Photos of displays from St Marin Library (Dr. John Barrett) and Pascagoula Library (Les Osborne) are posted in the blog section of website.
5. Discussion about the homepage as to whether our website stands out to new visitors. Is there information that would benefit new collectors and is it readily accessible? President Rob O'Dell to asked members to evaluate the page as a novice would and see if we need to make any changes.

Standard Agenda Items (cont.)

Circuit Update– Bob

1. In October only 95 items were purchased but there was still well over the \$200 that is needed to avoid the 5% penalty.
2. Requests for specific US revenues, Modern Bermuda not Early Bermuda and random books with modern stamps from any available country were submitted. It might take one or two circuits until we see these changes.
3. Assistant Circuit Manager needed to start in January 2024

Old Business

1..Sale of Club Library – Eric

No new sales.

2 Auction – Les

Les Osborne asked that descriptions and photos of lot being submitted reach him by mid-December. A survey of how many members will submit lots showed only a few members indicated they were planning on doing so. President Rob O'Dell indicated his concern that we would not have enough lots to have a 70 to 100 lot auction.

Continued next page.

Old Business (Cont.)

2 Auction – Les (Cont.)

Motion made and approved to allow members who are going to submit lots to have 5 lots that are contingency lots. The decision to use or not use these contingency lots will be up to Les Osborne who is preparing the auction catalog.

3 Survey of Members

Cathy Marousky is collecting and collating the surveys. Board members who have not turned in their surveys, please get them to Cathy as soon as possible.

4. Purging of Club Membership Roster

Pending completion of the surveys.

5 Need to determine Theme for GULFPEX 2024.

Cathy Marousky said she explored the stamps of Israel and did not feel this would be a good show theme topic.

Dr. John Barrett volunteered to do an exhibit on the solar eclipse happening a few days after our show. People in this area will be able to see an 80% eclipse. A motion made and approved to have the solar eclipse as our GULFPEX 2024 theme. This gives us a lot of opportunities for promoting the show.

Since Dr. Barrett will be spending his own money to make the exhibit, a motion was made and approved to give him up to \$50 to purchase material for the exhibit.

6 Planning for Christmas Party

The party will be on December 2, 2023 at Mercy Housing. Set up time is 12 noon with food and fun starting at 1 pm. Plan is for the Club to furnish the meat (ribs and pulled pork or brisket from Rib Crib in Ocean Springs). Members are asked to bring a side dish. A request was made asking if anyone had any philatelic related activities for the party. If so, please contact Tom Adams.

7 Results of October Stamp Collecting month efforts

1. Any new members – None Noted at this time.
2. Any increased traffic on website? Or emails inquiries – Increase of 48% (22 visits) viewing of the website
3. List of outreach efforts
 - a) Library displays in St. Martin's, Pascagoula and Vancleave.
 - b) Over 200 packets of free stamps given out.
 - c) Packets of stamps given to postmaster Dana Amos of Ocean Springs for all his employees. He is a big supporter of Stamp Collecting.
 - d) Information about availability of stamp packets and programs posted on the Jackson County Homeschool Facebook Page – No responses as yet.

8. Donation to Friends of St. Martin Library

Motion made and approved to donate \$100 for the St. Martin Library through the Friends of the Library.

9. Reserving Library for 2024 Year's Meetings.

Request has been submitted to St. Martin Library Manager Amber Schultz. (See Attachment 3 – Request of use of Library meeting room in 2024.

New Business

Fall 2024 Bourse. Show chairman Rob O'Dell is checking on possibly having our fall bourse on September 27 and 28 with set up on September 26. He will talk to Sandra at the Community Center to see about reserving those dates.

Announcements:

1. Interesting Information: The Post Office has an internal website that talks about postal history. It includes such things as the children who were mailed, mailing building supplies for a bank to save money, etc. The site is restricted to postal employees only.
2. Eric White gave show chairman Rob O'Dell the name of a new dealer who might want to come to our show. Getting dealers for our show is becoming a potential issue. The Memphis show that normally has 10 to 12 dealers only had 5 this year. The Montgomery Stamp and Coin show had 5 coin dealers and only 1 stamp dealer. More and more dealers are becoming online dealers to save the expense of going to a show.
3. Fred Brafford, one of our long time dealers, is in a rehab facility and will be receiving treatment for an aggressive form of cancer. If you would like to send him a card, contact Cathy Marousky for the address.
4. The New Orleans stamp show will be January 5 & 6, 2024 at a new location. The Southeastern Federation annual show will be January 26 to 28, 2024. Location of that show is in Northeastern Atlanta. See website for additional information.

Show and Tell:

1. Robert Kilroy showed a Canadian Album and US Plate Block collection that he is interested in selling. (if interested contact Treasurer Mike Kayes for Robert's contact information).
2. Dr. John Barrett showed early Hungarian Revenue stamps that were printed on "rice paper". They are so thin that when you hold them to light they are translucent.

Show and Tell: (cont.)

3. Dr. Barrett also showed last year's Liechtenstein specialty catalog. He is going to be ordering this year's catalog along with new issues from Liechtenstein. One of the issues is joint issue between Austria, Lichtenstein and Switzerland. Anyone interested in the catalog and/or stamps contact him. He will be sending in his order soon.

Volunteer for January Educational Program

No Educational Program for December because of Christmas Party

Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 2:15 pm.

Educational Program

Rob O'Dell presented a program on Siderography. Before the Bureau of Printing began using Siderography, forgeries were common. The process begins with the engraver who makes a die of the stamp that is cut in reverse. That die is then made into a hard steel die. The steel die is only of a single stamp so in order to make sheets of 50, 100 or 200 stamps the Siderographer used the hardened transfer die to press the impression onto a larger sheet. The work is very exacting in order to prevent misprints, poor margins, or other flaws. One mistake in making a sheet for printing and the entire sheet is ruined. The process was invented by Jacob Perkins in 1819 and was used to print the British Penny Black (first true postage stamp). He was the cofounder of the famous Perkins/Bacon printers who printed numerous British issues.

Continued next page.

November 4, 2023 Business Meeting

Educational Program (Cont.)

Illustrations from from the book “The United States 4th Bureau Issue 1922-1938” by Gary Griffith were used during the presentation. This book is available from APS for member price of \$40 and nonmember price of \$45.

Robert T. “Bob” Marousky
Secretary, Gulf Coast Stamp Club

Attachment 1 – Sign in sheet attached

Attachment 2 – November Treasurer’s Report

Attachment 3 – Request for St. Martin Library Meeting Room