



## VERMONT PHILATELIC SOCIETY

[www.vermontps.org](http://www.vermontps.org)

Meets annually

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**SHOW COVERS** — The Quechee show issued covers for a number of years. The series has ended. The USPS no longer attends shows and will not issue a special cancel unless it attends.

## HOW THE UPPER VALLEY STAMP CLUB WAS BORN

*By John Lutz*

In the spring of 1995, W. Bruce Dudley, who had just retired as the president of the Woodstock National Bank, sent a short note to *Linn's Stamp News* inviting interested collectors to form a new stamp club. About the same time, unaware of the Woodstock Club's existence, Peter Jordan (then a postal employee at Norwich) and Sylvia Fraser announced the start of the Norwich Stamp Club. Before that time, this area of central Vermont had no formal club.

Ten to fifteen members usually attended those meetings. I was a member of both clubs, and two years later urged the two groups to unite to become the Upper Valley Stamp Club. The UVSC would meet in Quechee, Vermont, about midway between Norwich and Woodstock.

A news release in the local newspaper noted "Two Local Stamp Clubs Merge." The business reporter contacted me for more information and learned the UVSC was about to hold a stamp show. The full-page article that resulted boosted attendance at the show and attracted even more members. By 2000, UVSC membership stood at 88 members.

The Crossroads Postcard & Stamp Show that grew out of these efforts has been an important part of the club's success. Held each April and October, the show draws more than twenty dealers and between three hundred to four hundred attendees. The fall show will be on October 5 at Mid-Vermont Christian School, 399 Gilson Avenue, Quechee, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The shows generate regular revenue for the club enabling it to support a range of projects. Dues remain at \$5 per year to cover the mailing of the regular club notices.

Today the UVSC has a membership of 64. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at Quechee Public Library. There is strong attendance at each meeting (usually twenty to thirty members) and programs are planned for the year. Four of the programs are auctions and usually six to nine members submit a list of lots for the auctions. ■