

Knoxpex 2005

Celebrating the 50th Anniversary
of
Jonas Salk's Polio Vaccine



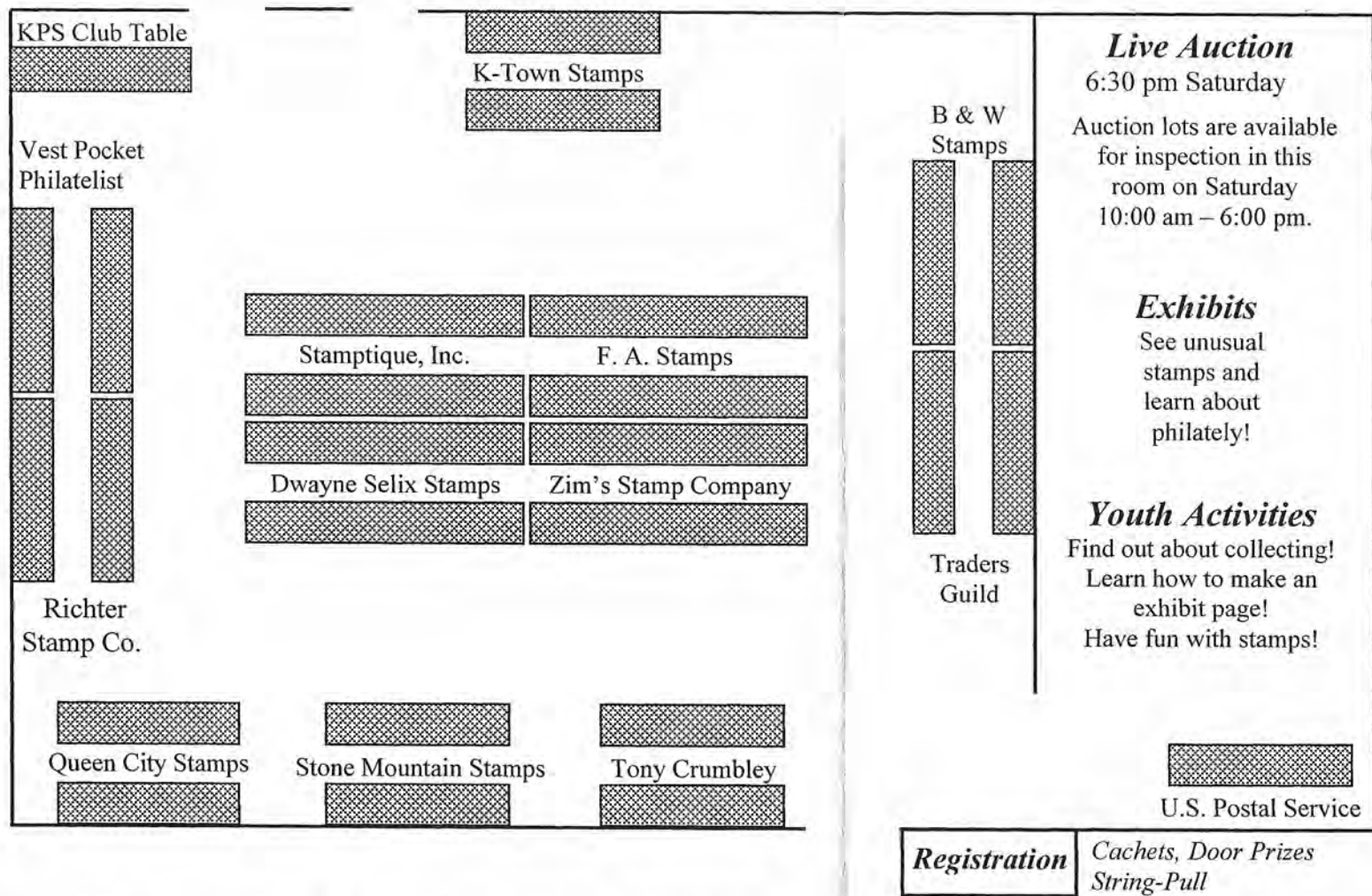
50th Anniversary of
Jonas Salk's
Polio Vaccine



March 5-6, 2005
Saturday – 10 am – 6 pm
Sunday – 10am – 4pm

Sponsored by
The Knoxville Philatelic Society

Knoxplex 2005 – Floor plan for dealer bourse and special events . . .



What do you collect?

- Worldwide?
- United States?
- Foreign?
- Topicals?
- Postal History?

We hope you find something great at our dealer bourse.

If you like the excitement of a live auction, please see our more than 100 auction lots, which will be sold at the KPS auction on Saturday night.

Young student collectors and scouts are encouraged to visit the Youth Activities area for advice on collecting – plus pick up a few free stamps – courtesy of KPS!

The Members of the *Knoxville Philatelic Society* welcome you to our annual show – *Knoxplex 2005*.

- We invite you to become a member of KPS – please complete a membership form at the registration table.
- Annual dues are \$10 and entitle you to receive our monthly newsletter and attend our meetings.
- KPS meets the first and fifth Tuesdays each month at 7:00 pm at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church, 2931 Kingston Pike. Visit us on the Web at www.stampclubs.com/knoxville/index.htm.

The 50th Anniversary of Jonas Salk's polio vaccine.

Poliomyelitis is a viral infection that causes inflammation of the gray matter of the spinal cord. Most infections result in minor, short term discomfort, but serious infections affect the central nervous system and can produce serious temporary or permanent paralysis. Infantile paralysis is a particularly tragic result of this disease.

The polio virus was first identified by Austrian researchers in 1908, and a major outbreak in the U.S. in 1916 was managed primarily by isolation and quarantine. During the 1920's attempts were made to develop a serum to treat the disease, but to this day such cures have been unsuccessful. The "iron lung" helped patients with impaired breathing, and many were able to use crutches or wheel chairs.

The election of polio patient Franklin D. Roosevelt as President helped bring the disease to the forefront and remove the unfavorable stigma attached to victims. Therapies continued to be developed, but it was not until the 1930's that research on vaccines was underway.

Jonas Salk (1914-1995), the son of Russian immigrants began studying flu viruses in medical school and in 1947 began studying the polio virus. Using killed virus to help the body develop immunity in test subjects that included his wife and children, Salk succeeded in producing the first effective vaccine, which was publicly announced on April 12, 1955. He refused to patent his vaccine in order to make it more widely accessible. Recognized on the cover of Time magazine in 1954 and the recipient of many awards, Salk spent his final years pursuing a vaccine against AIDS. Poliomyelitis: A Brief History, <http://www.cloudnet.com/~edrbsass/poliohistory.htm>
Jonas Salk, M.D., <http://www.achievement.org/autodoc/page/sal0bio-1>

Fight Against Polio Philately

The fight against polio and infantile paralysis has been commemorated in 1957 (Scott 1087) and in the "Celebrate the Century" series (Scott 3187a). Notable polio victims shown on US stamps include President Franklin D. Roosevelt (Scott 930-33, 1284, 1298, 1305, 1950, 2219d, 2559d, 3185a) and Tennessean Olympic gold medal winner Wilma Rudolph (Scott 3422, 3436).

Knoxville Philatelic Society

Contact us at: PO Box 50422, Knoxville, TN 37950-0422

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