

What is the NPTC?

The National Park Travelers Club (NPTC) is 501(c)(7) not-for-profit social club dedicated to promoting visitation to and appreciation of the United States National Park System and to providing fellowship and recognition for everyone interested in visiting the various Units of the National Park System and collecting cancellations from the Passport to Your National Parks program. The NPTC is not affiliated with the National Park Service nor Eastern National, Inc. "Passport to Your National Parks" is a registered trademark of Eastern National, Inc.

Why can't I view the Master List or Master Map?

Only paid members of the NPTC are allowed access to both the Master List and Master Map. For a small annual fee, you are able to have unlimited access to the Master List and Master Map. Both the Master List and Master Map are updated frequently as changes or updates are reported by our members. You can join the National Park Travelers Club by downloading the application form. The initial fee is \$10 and \$5 per year thereafter.

I signed up on parkstamps.org. Why can't I see the Master List or Master Map?

When one registers on parkstamps.org, they are granted access to the forum and documents on the site. However, there is a difference between site membership and NPTC membership. Site membership is completely free, and anyone registered on parkstamps.org is welcome to use our forums to gain advice and information about traveling through the National Parks.

Club membership does have a nominal fee. Initial registration is \$10.00 for the first year, with each subsequent year costing \$5.00.

Access to the Master List and Master Map is available to club members only. To join or renew your NPTC membership, please download the form located under the paper clip on your right and mail it in with your check or money order.

What are the benefits to NPTC membership?

To join the NPTC website and gain access to our forums is free. The NPTC site also offers a paid membership option which makes you a member of the Club (not just the site) and gives access to more features and information than basic site membership.

Benefits offered to NPTC members include:

- * Access to a members only forum for the most recent club information.
- * The Master List - A compilation of all trip reports and e-mails sent to the NPTC. This is a complete list of every known stamp and location where a stamp can be found available. If you are planning a trip in the pursuit of stamps, printing this list will be invaluable. This list is updated about once a month, and includes all active, lost/stolen, and retired stamps.
- * Non-NPS Bonus Stamp List - Stamps not in the traditional round format. Also included in this list are stamps for other programs, including the BLM, USLHS, and state programs.
- * The Master Map - A Google Maps file showing all NPS stamping locations. This does not just point out the National Parks, but pinpoints the exact stamp locations.
- * Other Places and Bonus Stamp Maps - A Google Maps file with other non-NPS stamping locations.
- * GPS Files - Downloads of the information from the Master Lists and Maps to import directly into your GPS receiver.
- * Access to our NPTC Club Newsletter - "The Stamp Pad"! The NPTC Newsletter featuring the latest news on National Park Traveler's Club activities, Park Traveling tips from our own members, and a special "Ranger Rambles" column written by a National Park Service Ranger.
- * The Master Database - Upload and store all your passport stamps. Information available on every stamp location with every stamp image.

What are the awards?

The NPTC offers two major categories of awards. Our Lifetime Achievement Awards are given for progress towards visiting every Unit of the National Park System. Our Master Traveler Awards are given annually to recognize visiting any area of the National Park System and collecting cancellations from the Passport to Your National Parks program during a single calendar year. Other awards include the 'Clean Sweep Award' for collecting at least one stamp from each of the nine Passport Regions in a single year, and the 'Most Wanted Award' for successfully collecting one of the most hard-to-find stamps out there. Please click the 'Awards' link at the top of this page for more detailed information.

What do the stars mean to the left of each forum post under the poster's name ?

The stars display a user's rating. The user rating is the weighted average of the users forum posts, comments, chat messages and number of visits to the website.

What is my membership number and where can I find it?

Your membership number is on your membership card. It is also on your Profile on the website. To view your profile, go to the Home page and click on "Profile" in the upper left part of the screen under "Welcome user name". You can't change your membership number.

How do I know when my membership expires?

The expiration date is on your membership card and on your Profile on the website. All memberships expire on the last day of the month. No one can see your membership number or expiration date except you. You can't change your expiration date. You will also receive email notifications when your membership is close to expiring.

What is the difference between my membership number and my user id?

The USER ID number is the number that is assigned to the user when they first sign up for the site. You do not need to pay dues to sign up for the site. The membership number is assigned sequentially after dues are paid.

The first membership numbers were assigned in the order that people signed in at the Rocky Mountain convention in 2004 AND paid their dues. After that, as people paid dues, they were assigned the next number. If people fail to pay dues and leave the club, their membership number is not re-assigned.

How do I know if I paid my dues or the Membership Director received my check?

You will receive a membership card in the mail. You can also check your Profile on the website (see above). Your expiration date will be changed to reflect dues payment. This usually happens within 24 hours of paying with PayPal. It will take longer for checks. Allow time for the US Mail to be delivered to the Membership Director.

What is a Lifetime Achievement Award and how do I apply for one?

Lifetime Achievement Awards are given to people who have visited a minimum number of NPS park units: Bronze – visit 100 units; Silver – visit 200 units; Gold – visit 300 units; Platinum – visit ALL units. It doesn't matter when you visited the unit or if you collected a stamp. No proof of visitation is required. Applications can be found under the "Awards" tab on the website.

What is a Lower 48 Award and how do I apply for one?

This award is earned by visiting all NPS units in the lower 48 states. It does require you to visit Klondike Gold Rush NHP in Seattle WA and the Tule Lake CA, World War II Valor in the Pacific site. There is no time frame for earning this award. Applications can be found under the "Awards" tab on the website.

What is a Master Traveler Award and how do I apply for one?

This award has four levels: Special Achievement, Bronze, Silver and Gold. It is different than the Lifetime Achievement Award because it is an award for collecting stamps and visiting parks in one calendar year. You can apply for this award every year. In addition, a "Clean Sweep" award is available for those members who collect at least one stamp in each region in a calendar year.

For specific requirements, see "Rules and Requirements Click Here" under the **Awards** tab/**Master Travelers Award** tab. It's on the left side under the image of the certificate.

How far in advance can I renew my membership?

You can renew your membership at any time, and for any length of time. We do not offer a 'lifetime' membership, but you can pay for as many years as you want.

Can I get a refund for my dues if I decide to leave the club?

No, dues are not refundable after you have been activated as a NPTC Member and given access to the website features.

How can I get more business cards to hand out?

Contact the Membership Director (Pat Hierl) and request up to 15 cards. Send a PM or email with the following information:

- your name (and NPTC #, if you have it)
- how many you would like (MAX of 15 only!)
- the address to which you would like them sent

Remember, do not leave these cards lying around any national park sites without specific permission. They are great to hand out to people interested in stamping.