



Columbia Philatelic Society January 2007

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Columbia Philatelic Society will be Tuesday, **January 16th** at our usual place, Boone Landing Activity Room, 109 Keene St. in Columbia. The meeting will start at 7 PM. The club meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at this location.

Remember that if you happen to arrive at the meeting a little early, please help get the room set up in its typical arrangement.

The program this month is appropriate to the New Year and will be:

The Future of Stamp Collecting

Veteran collector and active philatelist **Scott Ward** will provide his insights. He is often around stamp shows, dealers, and collectors of all ages, so his thoughts about current trends and where we're heading as a hobby should be most interesting.

Last Time

We had a great evening at the Olive Garden Restaurant in mid-December. A record 30 people (members and several spouses) showed up and had a good dinner and relaxed conversation. Thanks again, **Jerry Antel**, for arranging the event!

We had our annual White Elephant Gift Exchange at the dinner, and I think everyone was impressed with the quality of the items exchanged.

2007 Officers

In November, we had elections for the 2007 calendar year. Our officers are:

President/Newsletter: Ed Hollander
Vice President/Newsletter: Dave Benish
Alternate VP: Scott Ward
Secretary/Treasurer: John Marquardt
Librarian/APS: Chuck Barsamian

Upcoming 2007 Programs

We've got a great slate of programs lined up for the year. Here's what coming for the remainder of 2007:

February: Stamp Bingo (Dave)
March: Show and Tell
April: Spring Auction
May: Lester Perkins Mystery Program
June: St. Louis World's Fair (E. Nettles)
July: Ice Cream Social and Movie
August: USPS Mailing Sorting Facility
September: Philatelic Literature (Joan)
October: Fall Auction
November: Benefit Auction/Elections
December: Christmas Party

Club Dues

Remember that it's time for our annual club dues of \$10. If you haven't already done so, please give (or mail) the money to our treasurer, **John Marquardt**.



Dave's Corner

The club set a couple of goals for 2006: Continue to grow our membership and help kids get (and stay) interested in stamp collecting. Over the year, we did increase our paid membership from 30 to 37, which is great! Our October Auction had about 50 participants, which was a record.

Our help with the kids will be an ongoing effort, but I know we'll succeed there too!

New Catalogs for Club Members

A tremendous benefit for members of the Columbia Philatelic Society is access to current (2007) Scott catalogs. We have the Specialized U.S. Catalog, the Classic Catalog, and foreign volumes.

These are expensive publications, and to my knowledge, few (if any) members purchase this set themselves since the complete set is hundreds of dollars. Yet, YOU, as a member of the club can check out individual catalogs for your perusal from our librarian, **Chuck Barsamian!**

We do encourage members to check catalogs out for only a month at a time to allow for access by all members.

Another Member Benefit

The club has free U.S. and foreign mixtures for members to look through. We also have inexpensive 5 cent mixtures that were purchased by the club and which are used as a club fund-raiser.

To make all of these mixtures more exciting, I'll be donating a variety of stamps in the \$1-\$5 range to "salt" all of these mixtures. Happy hunting! Other members are encouraged to add any duplicates to the mix as well!

Chalky Paper

A chalk-like substance coats the surface of chalky paper to discourage the cleaning and reuse of canceled stamps, as well as to provide a smoother, more acceptable printing surface.

Because the designs of stamps printed on chalky paper are imprinted on what is often a water-soluble coating, any attempt to remove a cancellation will destroy the stamp. **Do not soak these stamps in any fluid.**

Stamp Mounts

Linn's recently had a worthwhile article on stamp mounts that's worth repeating. These "mounts are a popular way to secure stamps in an album. Mounts are a must for mounting mint stamps on an album page because they do not disturb the stamp gum.

Mounts may be purchased cut to size or in strips that you need to cut to the right size. Some stamp mounts have one sealed side and three open sides. Others are sealed top and bottom with a split in the back that allows the stamp to be easily inserted.

Stamp mounts are available with clear backs or with black backs. Black mounts provide a nice frame for stamps.



When using mounts, be certain to use the correct size. When in doubt, move up a size. A stamp should not be so tightly placed into a mount that the perforations are jammed against the sealed edges.

When cutting mounts from a strip, measure and cut them to size before putting the stamps into them. Using a specially design mount cutter, a paper cutter or scissors is your choice to make.

Regardless of what you are using to cut the mount to size, cutting a mount with stamp inside it is inviting trouble. One slip and you can cut the stamp.

When affixing stamp mounts to an album page, moisten the mount very lightly at the top of the mount only. Using a mount to protect the stamp's gum won't do much good if you slobber all over the back of the mount and the moisture slips through the slit in the back to damage the gum.

Also, do not moisten the mount at both the top and the bottom. Doing so would make it virtually impossible to remove the stamp without damaging either the stamp or the mount."