



The Philately Fun Times

The Columbia Philatelic Society
May 2018

Dave Benish, Ed. 696-2597
www.columbiaphilatelicsociety.org

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Columbia Philatelic Society will be Tuesday, May 15th at our usual place (now called Solstice), at 109 Keene St. in Columbia.

The meeting this month will start at 6:30 PM and end at 8:00. We will be on this schedule for at least the next couple of months to see how it works out. Members can come as early as 6:00 if they want, for pre-meeting buying, trading, selling, and socializing.

Our program this month is:

Philatelic Security Features

Long-time member **Al White** will be giving this presentation, which should be most interesting. There are several features to postage stamps that are intended to foil attempts at counterfeiting. We'll see what they are.



Last Time

We entered the era of Civil War and Wild West matches, miracle nostrums, and salves with private die proprietary stamps. I hope some of the members also had a chance to look at **Denny Donnell's** fine collection of these match and medicine stamps—very impressive!



Welcome, Brad!

At the last meeting we had a chance to meet **Brad Miller**. He's taking a fresh look at the collecting world after an extended absence. Brad has a box of fun items to look through.

Upcoming 2018 Programs

- May:** Philatelic Security Features (**Al W.**)
- Jun.:** Scouting on Stamps (DVD)
- Jul.:** Ice Cream Social + (**John M.**)
- Aug.:** Club Fundraising & Col. \$ Auctions
- Sep.:** "Clothesline" (1-Page) Exhibits
- Oct.:** Kids and Stamps (**Scott Ward**)
- Nov.:** Fall Auction/Elections
- Dec.:** Christmas Party

2018 Officers

President: **Jean Walker**

V.P./Librarian/APS: **David Durbin**

Treasurer: **John Marquardt**

Newsletter: **Dave Benish**

Webmaster: **Rebecca DeCourley**

This Month's Winner

The winner this month for an extra \$30 Columbian in his newsletter is **Russ Baughman**. Congratulations!

An Excellent Magazine

Wayne Youngblood, who once visited our club from St. Louis, is now the editor of *The American Stamp Dealer and Collector*. This magazine is a quality philatelic publication that I believe is currently the best in the hobby. Very interesting articles and stories, and you don't have to be a stamp dealer to enjoy them. Their website is:

americanstampdealer.com

Wayne had an interesting idea on the final page of April's issue (where his editorials appear). He suggested the challenge of collecting covers or stamps bearing a postmark from each city in which a person has lived (he had a half dozen cities). For some, this would be a quick proposition. But my father was an airline mechanic, and we moved a lot, so I'd be looking at 10 or so.

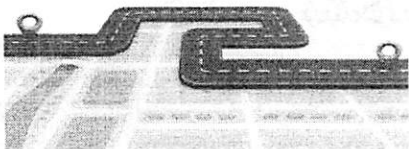
But the concept brings up a bigger point. There are many creative ways to collect. If you've reached a "dead end" in your collection, consider new roads!



It's the Journey

Along those lines, in the aforementioned publication, writer **John Hotchner** correctly points out that it's the stamp collecting journey, and not actually reaching the final destination that's the goal.

Frankly, it's pretty hard to get a complete collection of anything in philately, but you can sure have a lot of fun in the process of heading in that direction!



Collecting Terms: Definitives

Perhaps you've heard the term "definitives" applied to some stamps.

These are smaller size stamps printed in huge quantities (and used by most people on their mail). They are typically available from the post office for an indefinite period of time which may be many years.



Canal Zone Stamps

The Panama Canal was under the jurisdiction of United States from 1904-1979. Special "Canal Zone" stamps, printed by the U.S., were used for stamps from the Canal Zone (an area of 552 sq. miles). Panama now owns the canal.

Most of the very early ones were U.S. definitives overprinted "Canal Zone". There was, however, a very attractive set issued in the 1930s that features views of the canal.



Dave's Corner

I was looking closely (with a magnifying glass) at some early U.S. stamps recently—some of the so-called "banknote" issues of the late 1800s. Besides being interesting in terms of varieties (colors, "secret marks" and such), they are truly works of engraving art. I'm thinking of getting a cheap microscope to look at them even closer!