



The Philately Fun Times of the Columbia Philatelic Society

March 2013

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www.columbiaphilatelicociety.org

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Columbia Philatelic Society will be Tuesday, **March 19th** 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.

The program this month is:

Mailers Postmarks

Veteran collector and member **Dan French** will discuss what mailers postmarks are, provide some examples, and reveal why they are so collectable.

Last Time

We had another meeting with great turnout. Member **Scott Ward** gave us insight into the wonderful world of exhibiting stamps, including how to build an exhibit and what the judges are looking for in one.

His own 10-frame (160 page) exhibit of Parcel Post usages will be at the St. Louis show at the end of March. His 8-frame exhibit on the same topic earned him a Gold Medal a couple of years ago..

2013 Officers

Our officers for this year are:

President: **Charles Peterson** (442-0042)
V. President: **Don Barnett** (573-635-1853)
Treasurer: **John Marquardt** (474-7254)
Libry/APS: **Chuck Barsamian** (446-9110)
Newsletter: **Dave Benish** (696-2597)

Upcoming 2013 Programs

Mar: Mailers Postmarks (**Dan French**)
Apr.: Spring Auction
May: Isle of Rhodes (**Alan Barasch**)
Jun.: Club Benefit/Columbian \$ Auctions
Jul.: Stamp Bingo (**Dave Benish**)
Aug.: APS Program (TBA)
Sep.: "Clothesline" (1-Page) Exhibits
Oct.: Precancels (**T.G. Rehkop**)
Nov.: Fall Auction/Elections
Dec.: Christmas Party

Thanks!

Thanks to all the members for the prompt payment of this year's dues. John Marquardt says it's the best year ever!

Welcome New Members

Collectors **Jess Merritt** and **LeRoy Welch** have joined our merry band. Welcome!

St. Louis Stamp Expo

The annual **St. Louis Stamp Expo** is here! It will run **March 22-24** and, as usual, will be at the Renaissance Hotel on Natural Bridge Road near the airport in St. Louis. Show hours are Friday - 11 AM to 6 PM v Saturday 10 AM to 6 PM v Sunday 10 AM to 4 PM.

If you only go to one show this year, make it this one. If you need directions, please give me or one of the other officers a call, or check out the show website at:

www.StLouisStampExpo.org

Recap of "New Columbian Dollars"

We summarized our plans with the new Columbian Dollars at the last meeting. The idea is to use them as club and APS participation incentives.

Most importantly, all current holdings of the Columbian Dollars will retain their value, and any of those you have can either be used in the fall auction or exchanged with the New Columbian Dollars by year end. The following is a summary of what the dollars are awarded for:

- ❖ \$5 C. with every newsletter.
- ❖ \$10 C. for attendance at a meeting (includes Christmas party).
- ❖ \$10 C. for bringing a lot to the Spring, Fall, or Benefit/\$C. auctions
- ❖ \$25 C. for being an APS member
- ❖ \$25 C. for bringing a guest.
- ❖ \$50 C. for being a club officer.
- ❖ \$50 C. for giving a program.



USPS Philatelic Publication

At the last meeting, we talked about the U.S. Postal Service's publication for ordering new issues. It's called the USA Philatelic, and it contains recent issues and other offerings of the USPS. If you want to subscribe to the free publication, you can either call 1-800-782-6724 or go online at the website www.BeyondthePerf.com/join.

Duplex Cancel

A duplex cancel is a two-part postal marking that is made up of both a "canceller" and a postmark. The canceller marks and voids the stamp so it cannot be reused. The postmark contains the date and place of mailing of the item.

Mass-Produced Errors

Genuine errors have been deliberately mass-produced by countries on two occasions. The goal of the action was to defeat philatelic speculation.

The first was a Greek stamp of 1937. A few copies of the 50 Lepta Red Cross stamp were found with an inverted overprint. The Greek government then decided to mass-produce a large number of the inverts.

The United States took a similar path when a sheet of the 1962 Dag Hammarskjold stamps was discovered with an inverted yellow background. The U.S. Post Office soon authorized the printing of a huge number of similar sheets to prevent the error from becoming a rarity. They are actually now more common than the stamps without an inverted yellow background.

Dave's Corner

Fellow member **Dick Robinson** asked me at the last meeting about stamp collection security. A good question. Although I believe stamp collections are not as targeted as, say, coins (less known about them, probably harder to "fence", etc.), they obviously can have significant value.

So what can you do? There are many approaches possible, and you probably have thought about some of them. I keep my really valuable items (what few I have) in a safe deposit box at the bank. You could write your name somewhere in the album so it can be identified as yours if recovered. If you have several albums, you could keep them in separate places—less likely that all would be found. Home safes are a possibility.

Insurance to cover any loss is certainly an option (APS has a good insurance program through Hugh Wood). There is info. on the APS website or call 1-888-APS-6494. I would imagine that fire or water/moisture damage would be a greater possible threat than theft—but regardless, you may want to think about how to protect your collections.