



## *The Philately Fun Times of the Columbia Philatelic Society*

**June 2013**

**Dave Benish, Ed., 696-2597**

[www.columbiaphilatelicsociety.org](http://www.columbiaphilatelicsociety.org)

### Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Columbia Philatelic Society will be Tuesday, **June 18<sup>th</sup>** at our usual place, Boone Landing Activity Room, 109 Keene St. in Columbia. The meeting will start at 7 PM. The club meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month at this location. This month will feature the following events:

### **Club Benefit & The Columbian Dollar Auctions Ice Cream Social**

The Club Benefit Auction is an important fund-raising auction for OUR club. Every member is encouraged to bring several items which will be auctioned off, and with 100% of the proceeds going to help fund our club. This is an excellent use for those duplicates to find new homes and help the club at the same time.

The second auction of the night will be the Columbian Dollar Auction (which also relies on your donations!). If you've been saving your Columbian Dollars, this is a great chance to spend them! Remember that any unused "newsletter" clipped dollars after the meeting can be sent to our treasurer by year's end for "new" Columbian Dollars.

For these auctions, sheets do not have to be

attached to the item, since they will all be auctioned off "live". However, you'll want to determine if it should go into the Club Benefit Auction or Columbian \$ Auction.

**John Marquardt** will facilitate the evening's fun events, including providing his famous ice cream and brownies!

### Last Time

In May, we were treated to an Alan Barasch program on stamps and covers of "The Isle of Rhodes". As we saw, philatelic items from Rhodes have a rich historical backdrop of the Ottoman Empire, two world wars, and involvement with both Italy and Greece. Thanks, Alan, for showing us your latest production!



We also had a chance to introduce ourselves to T.G. Rehkop of Fenton, MO who will be delivering a program on Precancels in November.

### 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

**Jun.:** Club Benefit/Columbian \$ Auctions

**Jul.:** Stamp Bingo (**Dave Benish**)

**Aug.:** Hawaii (APS Program)

**Sep.:** "Clothesline" Exhibits

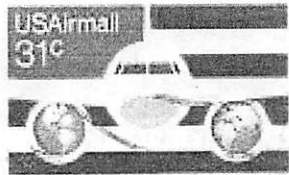
**Oct.:** Precancels (**T.G. Rehkop**)

**Nov.:** Fall Auction/Elections

**Dec.:** Christmas Party

## Aerophilately

Aerophilately is a specialized area of collecting concentrating on stamps or covers transported by air. For example, some collectors focus on U.S. airmail stamps, "first flight" covers between cities, or military airpost issues.



## Authentication Marks

Occasionally, you might find a stamp (usually a better one) with a weird mark or initials on the back of it, usually in ink. This could be an "authentication mark".

These are special markings, such as initials, placed on the reverse of a stamp examined and certified to be genuine by an expert. Such markings do not detract from the value of the stamps when they represent the endorsement of recognized authorities.

## Dave's Corner

In a recent stamp magazine article, author John Hotchner noted several reasons to belong to a stamp club. Here are some he mentioned:

1. Enjoyment in sharing a hobby.
2. Connections to philatelic resources
3. Ability to buy, sell, and trade material
4. Programs/speakers to learn more
5. Info. about shows and events
6. Often a place to buy supplies
7. Collectors willing to share knowledge
8. Resource for philatelic literature

To these, I would add that folks actively involved in a club are happier people!

## History of U.S. Postage Rates

We've probably all complained about the rising cost of mailing items. However, for first-class postage rates, the amount has remained relatively stable if inflation is considered. The chart below shows rates in 2008 terms, both adjusted for inflation (lighter shade) and unadjusted nominal rates (darker shade). Except for a few time periods, first class postage rates have remained relatively constant in inflation-adjusted terms.

