



THE PHILATELY FUN TIMES

The Columbia Philatelic Society

December 2013

Next Meeting

The next get-together of the Columbia Philatelic Society will be **this coming Tuesday, December 10th** at the **Columbia Olive Garden Restaurant** (just off I-70). Why? Because it's time for our annual

Christmas Party!

Dinner will start at 7 PM, but if you'd like to come a little earlier, some of us will be enjoying libations at the bar (perhaps as early as 6:30). If you haven't already signed up (or told Dave) and want to go please give him a call at 696-2597.

White Elephant Gifts

A club tradition at the Christmas party is the exchanging of White Elephant Gifts. If you want to take part, just bring a wrapped gift (most are in the \$5-\$15 value range). We'll have them in a pile at the end of the table. Towards the end of the evening, those bringing a gift can pick another one up. It's always fun to see what members receive.



Last Time

We had quite a bit going on at our last meeting. We had our annual **Fall Auction**, which featured dozens and dozens of great lots. I hope everyone found something they liked and were able to sell some duplicates to pay for them!

2014 Officers

We also elected officers for the upcoming year at the last meeting. Basically, they're the same as for 2013! Here they are:

President: Charles Peterson

Vice-President: Don Barnett

Treasurer: John Marquardt

Librarian: Chuck Barsamian + ???

Newsletter: Dave Benish

Webmaster: Rebecca DeCourley

There are question marks after **Chuck's** name because he will be moving by early summer, and a person to fill in for the remainder of the year is needed. The librarian handles the APS circuits (a couple of hours needed per month), but the big perc is the first look at the circuit books. In addition, the librarian historically gets free dues for the year as an additional incentive. **Chuck** can cross-train anyone interested in this position, so we hope someone will step forward and volunteer for librarian of the club.



Outline of Programs for 2014

At the November meeting, we also discussed programs for the upcoming year. Here's the list:

January:	Show and Tell
February:	The Confederacy
March:	Topicals (Guest Speaker)
April:	Spring Auction
May:	Stamp Bingo
June:	Catalogs & Ice Cream Social
July:	APS Program
August:	Summer & Col. \$ Auction
September:	Clothesline Exhibits
October:	Be a Detective: Grills & More
November:	Fall Auction, Club Elections
December:	Christmas Party

Our upcoming program in January, therefore, will be Show & Tell, which is always interesting and popular. Find something fun in your philatelic items to share!



Dues

Just a quick reminder that dues will be coming up at the beginning of next year. As usual, they will be \$10 per family.

Christmas Seals

It all began in 1907. In the early 20th century, tuberculosis was the leading cause of death in the U.S. Physicians were experiencing the first signs of success treating tuberculosis in special hospitals called sanatoriums, and one of those facilities had fallen on tough times.



A tiny Delaware sanatorium would have to close its doors if \$300 could not be raised to save it. One of its doctors explained the plight to his cousin, a volunteer named **Emily Bissell**. Bissell was a veteran fundraiser, and she soon came up with a plan based on one that had worked in Denmark: She would design and print special holiday seals and sell them at the post office for a penny each.

By the end of her holiday campaign (and after an endorsement by President Roosevelt), she and a large group of committed volunteers had raised ten times the goal and the American Lung Association Christmas Seals® were born. Christmas Seals are listed in the Scott Catalog and are very collectible.

Dave's Corner

I just wanted to wish all of the members a very happy New Year and great fun with collecting in 2014.

See you at the party!