



The Philately Fun Times

**The Columbia Philatelic Society
May 2019**

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Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Columbia Philatelic Society will be **Tuesday, May 21st** at our usual place (now called Solstice), at 109 Keene St. in Columbia.

6:00 Buying, selling, and socializing
6:30 Business meeting starts

Our planned speaker, the ex-postmaster, had an unexpected call to come to Minneapolis the week of our meeting, so our activity this month is:

Stamp Bingo

We'll have great prizes! No prior experience is needed—some philatelic knowledge but mainly just a little bit of luck.

We're usually able to get in 3-4 games in the evening. Come have some fun at this popular game!



Last Time

We had a couple of programs—a first for our club. Plus we had door prizes for everybody!

John Marquardt started with a demonstration of how to easily remove paper from self-adhesive stamps from paper. A great hands-on presentation. Thanks, John!

That was followed up with an APS slide program on “Underated First Day Covers.” We saw unusual, illegal, and irregular usages on first day covers; some interesting first day cancellations, creative stamp combinations, and imaginative cachets. A segment of this newsletter details how you can create new FDC's of your own!

Upcoming 2019 Programs

May 21: Stamp Bingo
Jun. 18: Ice Cream Social & Trivia Contest
Jul. 16: Album Night (**Club Members**)
Aug. 20: Club Fundraising & Col. \$ Auctions
Sep. 17: “Clothesline” (1-Page) Exhibits
Oct. 15: Fall Auction/Elections
Nov. 19: Philatelic Craft Night
Dec. 10: Christmas Party

2019 Officers

President: **Scott Ward**

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

Treasurer: **John Marquardt**

Newsletter: **Dave Benish**

Webmaster: **Rebecca DeCourley**

Stamp of the Month: U.S. 306

First U.S. woman on a U.S. stamp.

Martha Washington appeared on this stamp from the 1902 regular series. The distinction of the first woman of any country, however, goes to Queen Isabella of Spain in the 1893 Columbian Exposition series.



Creating Your Own FDC's

You say that you want to have fun creating and obtaining your own first day covers? It's easy!

The grace period has been extended from 60 to 120 days (after the stamp issue date) in which covers can be obtained. The issue date can be found on the USPS or APS web site or Linn's.

Within the grace period, purchase the stamp or postal stationary item at a local post office. Put it on an envelope addressed to you (the stamp or stamps must make up at least the 1st class rate). They must be a #6 or #10 envelope (the most common ones you buy). Then put that envelope in a bigger one and send to:

FDOI
(name of the stamp issue)
USPS Stamp Fulfillment Services
8300 NE Underground Drive, Suite 300
Kansas City, MO 6414 4 -9900

No payment is required unless you want more than 50 of them (5 cents per postmark after that). The USPS then obviously mails the FDC back to you and it can be added to your collection!

Speaking of New Issues

A good choice for a first day cover would be one or both of the two new U.S. stamps that have been announced for the Moon landing anniversary. The issue date is July 19th, which is almost exactly 50 years since Armstrong and Aldrin landed on the moon (which was July 21st, 1969). These are two attractive stamps.



This Month's Winner

Bruce Taylor will be receiving an additional \$30 Columbian with his newsletter. Congrats!

Bluish Paper

There are a few U.S. and foreign stamps that have been printed with so-called bluish paper. An example is U.S. #369, the Lincoln Centenary of Birth issue. It was printed both with regular white paper (#367) and the bluish paper (#369).

The bluish paper for this issue is actually made from 35% rag stock instead of all wood pulp. It is actually grayish-blue in color, and it shows on the face and back of the stamp. If someone in the club has one, it would be great to see an example.

Used copies of the "normal" version retail for about \$2, and for the bluish paper it's \$250.



Dave's Corner

I've been having a lot of fun working on my Luxembourg collection lately. It's kind of an off-beat country, but I like it because it has lots of interesting and fairly inexpensive stamps.

A couple of years ago, one of the members brought the album I'm currently using to one of our auctions, and I bought it at a good price (thanks!). Although it had a few stamps in it, I've added dozens more.

It brings up two points. If you have an album for a country you're not collecting, bring it to one of our auctions—someone may take it up. Also, it's fun to venture into the stamps of a new country and explore their philatelic treasures!