



The Philately Fun Times

The Columbia Philatelic Society
June 2020

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www.columbiaphilatelicsociety.org

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Columbia Philatelic Society will be **Tuesday, June 16th** at:

John Marquardt's Residence
609 Woodridge in Columbia (Map on Back)

It will begin at 7:00 PM this time. The activity is:

Ice Cream Social & Stamp Bingo

Because John will need an accurate count of potential attendees for buying the ice cream, **please RSVP to John at 474-7254. He has an answering machine, so if he's not there, please leave a message.** If we don't hear from you, we'll assume that you won't be coming.

People will not be wearing masks at the meeting, so if that's critical for you, you may not want to attend. We will be outside on John's deck and trying to keep some space between people

Stamp Bingo will have great prizes! No prior experience is needed, maybe some philatelic knowledge but mostly luck. We're usually able to get in 3-4 games in the evening. So come have some fun at this popular game!



Club Notes

The planned program on "The Byrd Expedition" by **Nathan Esbeck** is being deferred to next year when we have a more workable meeting space for this quality presentation. Nathan, we appreciate your understanding!

One of the items we'll want to discuss at this month's meeting as we're enjoying our ice cream is how we want to handle the rest of the year. It is unlikely that we'll be able to meet at Solstice until at least there's a Covid-19 vaccine (maybe by year-end). Many places will also be reluctant to have people meeting at their facilities. There is apparently a possibility of the Fulton Electric Coop (Ameren) allowing meetings, and there may be other places as well. Or we could just defer club meetings until 2021. So we'll have to discuss those issues.

So the program schedule for the rest of 2020 is somewhat "up in the air" at this point. We'll let all members know through the July newsletter the main results of the discussions.

2020 Officers

President/Librarian/APS: **David Durbin**
Vice President: **Bruce Taylor**
Treasurer: **John Marquardt**
Newsletter: **Dave Benish**
Webmaster: **Rebecca DeCourley**

This Month's Winner

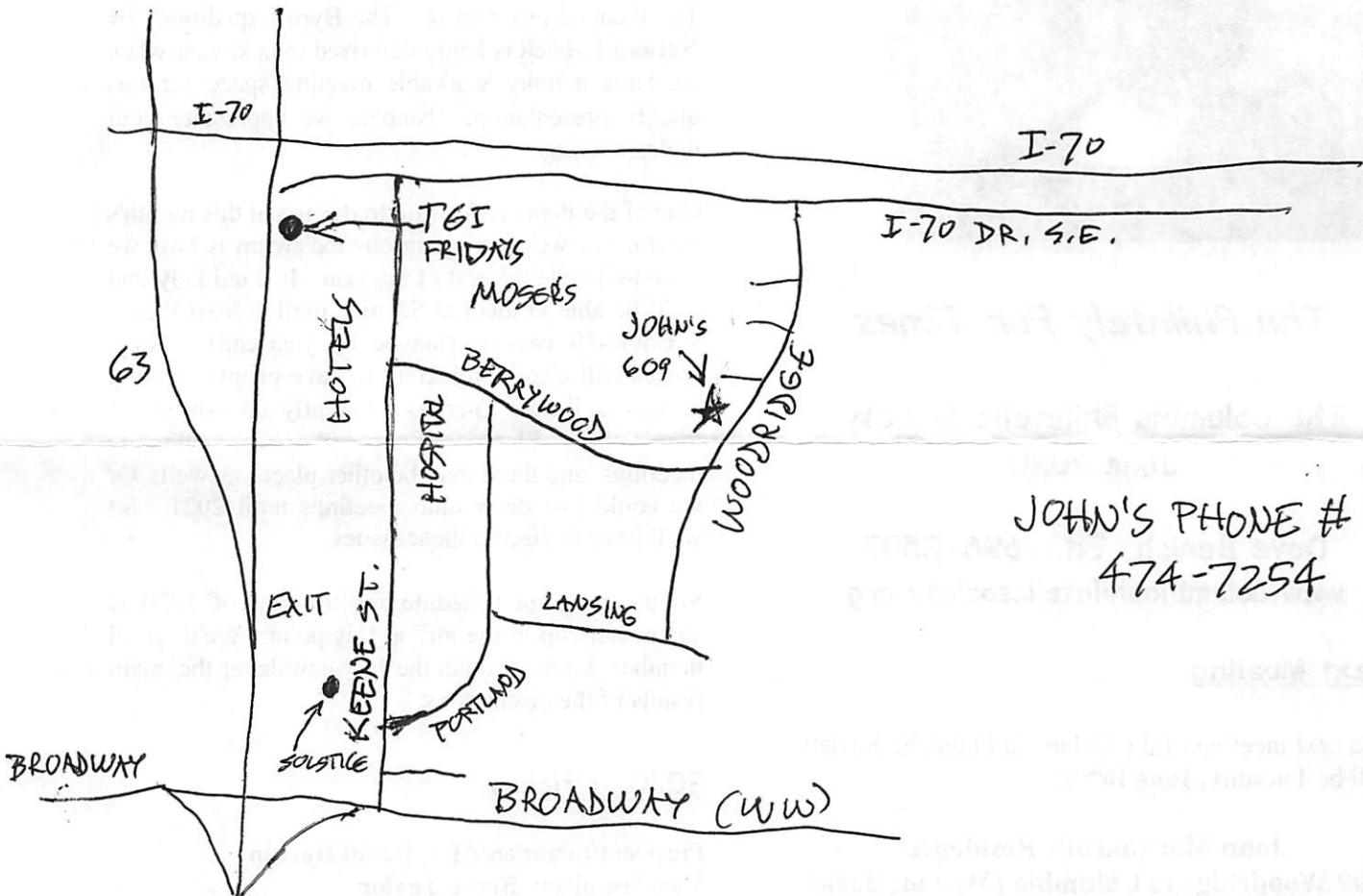
Congratulations to **Steve Cooper**, this month's random winner of \$30 Columbian.

Stamp of the Month: U.S. 650



This stamp, issued in 1928 had two purposes: the celebration of 25 years of flight and also the 1928 International Civil Aeronautics Conference in the nation's capital. Keep your eyes open for the "Prairie Dog" variation on the 5 cent denomination (a plate flaw described in the Specialized Catalog).

Map to John Marquardt's



JOHN'S PHONE #
474-7254

Undersea Post Office

Incredibly, not all mail has been handled by post offices above sea level. In 1939, the world's first underwater post office was established near Nassau in the Bahamas.

In 1914, John Williams built a submersible chamber called the Williamson Photosphere. The idea was to take underwater pictures. However, in 1939, the Bahamian Government authorized its use as a post office. The first two letters were mailed to King George VI and Franklin Roosevelt, both avid stamp collectors. Many more covers were later serviced. Many of them used Bahamas Scott #106, which has an underwater scene.



Dave's Corner



U.S. 537, Victory Stamp of WW I

These are definitely challenging times for the club, and indeed the nation as a whole. Many clubs and organizations are obviously facing many of the same issues that we're dealing with. Eventually, solutions will be found and things will return to a more normal state. Until then, we'll just have to be patient and do the best we can. Hopefully, by next year we can have regular meetings once again. Best wishes and health to all our members.