



Columbia Philatelic Society

APS chapter #043067

August 2023 Newsletter

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Commentary and updates:

summers and this year is no collecting can be done indoors, meeting, we'll finalize plans for A volunteer roster will be at the success. Bob Anderson will lead the meeting as I'll be in Cleveland at the GASS show, Aug. 11 – 13. Thanks, Bob for filling in. Thanks to our members who attended CHARPEX in Charlotte last weekend. The show drew over 300 attendees with 20 dealers providing ample philatelic material. They have a strong club and we're considered "sister" societies (CPS-North/CPS-South). Fourteen exhibits were on display, including 10 frames from our own members. Rick Miller had two exhibits, John Owen contributed seven frames and Mick Zais had a powerful single frame. Each contributor received a heavy square CHARPEX dish in appreciation.



Hot Columbia! South Carolina is known for hot exception. Regardless of the season at least stamp hopefully in air-conditioned comfort. At Sunday's our Summer show. It's next Saturday and Sunday. next meeting, so volunteer to make the show a

next meeting, so volunteer to make the show a success. Bob Anderson will lead the meeting as I'll be in Cleveland at the GASS show, Aug. 11 – 13. Thanks, Bob for filling in. Thanks to our members who attended CHARPEX in Charlotte last weekend. The show drew over 300 attendees with 20 dealers providing ample philatelic material. They have a strong club and we're considered "sister" societies (CPS-North/CPS-South). Fourteen exhibits were on display, including 10 frames from our own members. Rick Miller had two exhibits, John Owen contributed seven frames and Mick Zais had a powerful single frame. Each contributor received a heavy square CHARPEX dish in appreciation.

I'm chairperson for our show and there's a need for three more members to exhibit their collections. It need not be fancy or extensive. One frame, 16 places, or less, would do just fine. Sign up Sunday or email me (johnwowensr@gmail.com.) to confirm your title and number of frames. Bob Wilson heads the list of exhibitors with one frame and Jerry Emanuel will exhibit his presidential autographs on first day covers, also one frame.

The Stamp Collecting Merit Badge will not be offered this year. Instead, a youth table will be set up with philatelic tools (tongs, hinges, perf gauges, stamps) and a Mystic stamp catalog. We'll need some volunteers to promote our hobby to any youngster who shows up.

Mark Postmus and the CPS officers are working to provide a special program centered on our show theme: "The 50th Anniversary of the All-Volunteer Military." Saturday at 11 a.m. a color guard from Spring Valley High School will join representatives of the six military services in the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem along with our special guests. We'll unveil the show cachet and special cancellation. Please join us for the ceremonies.

The USPS will have a "Stamp Sales Table" in the lobby on Saturday. The one time the Post Office comes to you.

If you subscribe to philatelic magazines, bring them to the meeting so others can enjoy them.



The next meeting will be **Sunday, August 13**, 2 p.m. at the TRI-CITY LEISURE CENTER, 485 Brooks Avenue, West Columbia.



A very Happy Birthday to: D. C. Locke (8) and Bob Anderson (20) Congratulations and many, many more.

PROGRAMS: Special Handling vs. Special Delivery

There was once a need for rural areas that needed packages mailed. Instead of putting letter rate stamps on the package, the USPS developed special rates and printed the postage stamps to match the rates. That was before UPS, FedEx, DXL and the rest.

“The Act of February 1925 provided 25 cents for 4th class mail to receive the same service as first class,” John Owen said. “It opened up a large market for the post office because private enterprise had already stepped in and was doing a lot of this,” he added.

Later on, there were other rates starting in 1928.



“Here are the four stamps together, QE1-4. They were only in use for six months,” Owen said. “If you look at the engraving that’s involved, it’s like currency. Those guys were masters,” Owen said.

Special Delivery postage was specified in the 1925 Act and it caused a little confusion since the special delivery stamps were issued less than two weeks after the special handling stamps. Special handling was used only regarding

special handling fees.

“Checking the stamps, you’ll see that Special Delivery stands out. All the stamps were different colors for the different denominations,” Owen said. “They did this so the postal workers could sort these things and make sure the correct postage was charged.”

Back then, you were dealing with a service that was same day delivery in most circumstances. “You can find these on covers, but finding mint stamps is difficult,” Owen said.



The postal workers didn't like the colors. This happened for several issues where they used gold or yellow. The postal department listened to their employees back then and they would change the color of the stamps.

"Look at the modes of transportation on the stamps," Owen said, "Motorcycles and the mail truck. The 1885 issue, a 10-cent messenger, the E-1 is extremely hard to find." Back then, they were delivering special delivery on foot, primarily in the cities. It didn't affect the rural areas until the 1930's.

The last special delivery stamp was issued in 1971. Today we have Priority Mail and Express Mail taking the place of special delivery.

John Owen

PAQUEBOTS:

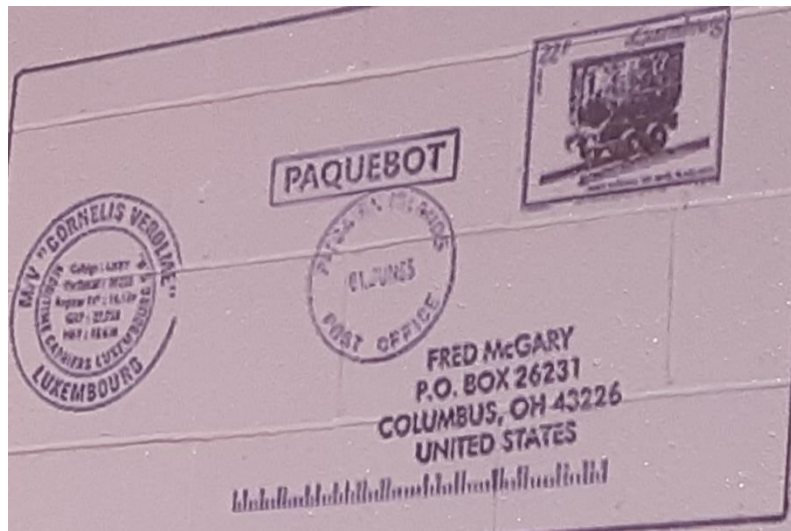
"This cover is from a container ship from a Captain friend of mine and it's registered in Luxembourg," said Fred McGary.

They would go around the world going from Europe through the Suez

Canal over to Australia, across the Pacific, through the Panama Canal to New York and back to Europe. "Somehow, he got close to Pitcairn Island and he sent me a bunch of covers with a Pitcairn Island postmark."

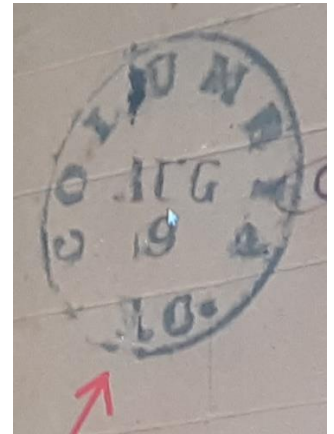
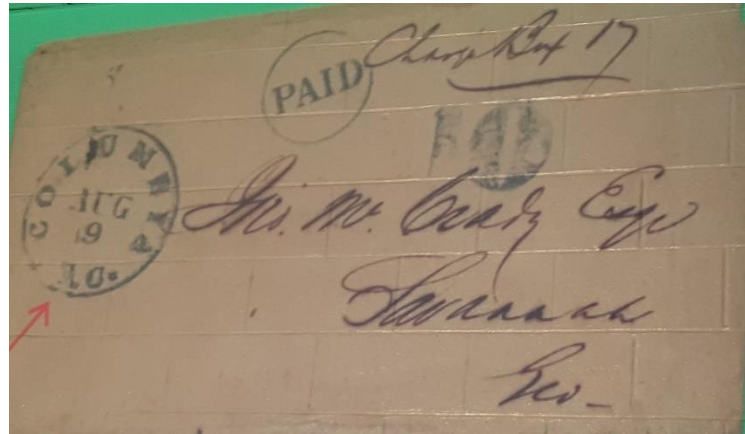
"I don't know how far out of his way he went to get there," McGary added, "I know he couldn't have docked so they had to come to his ship. Many cruise ships want to go where no one has been and they've put Pitcairn Island on their route," McGary concluded.

A paquebot is mail sent from one port of call, cancelled on board a ship taking it to the nearest port of call to be processed as regular mail.



Fred McGary

IS IT GENUINE OR A FAKE?



This cover, available on EBAY is listed as

one from Columbia, Missouri. “It’s a stampless cover,” Bob Anderson said, “but it’s not from Columbia, MO. It’s from Columbia, South Carolina.” When he first saw it he looked at the style of postmarks and thought, “that sure looks like a Columbia civil war era postmark.”

“As I looked more carefully at it, there is actually an “S” that some creative individual has very poorly rubbed out,” he observed. He then said the same individual took a pen or some type of device and tried to make a piece of an “M”. “They made it look like the “M” wasn’t fully struck, and they linked it to the existing period which came after the “S.”

According to Anderson, they then closed the gap between the top of the “C” and the base of the “C” to make an “O.”

“So, someone took a \$250 cover (Columbia, S. C.) and turned it into a pretty sorry looking fake,” he said.

Anderson thinks this is a Confederate cover from that period because the style is consistent with the South Carolina capital city.

“Besides,” he stated, “this is an envelope. A stampless era cover would be more likely on a folded letter. Envelopes were just coming into play prior to 1851 when the rate would have changed.” He warned, this is what you find at times on EBAY.

Bob Anderson



CHARPEX



PERFINS

“I collect perfins,” said Jim Sneed. *Perfins are stamps that have been perforated with designs, initials or numerals by private business and governmental agencies to discourage theft and misuse.*



This was a registered cover from Chicago to Boston. There are 63 five-dollar stamps, three one-dollar stamps, two thirty cent stamps and two three cent stamps to make the

postage in 1946. They all had perfins in them. “A couple of things of interest,” said Sneed, “by 1946, the presidential five-dollar stamps had been in general use for eight years, which means someone at Harris Trust had virtually a whole sheet of five-dollar stamps waiting to be used.”

In theory, Sneed said, a five-dollar stamp used on a cover in a reasonable time period would have a catalog value of about \$190 for one stamp. He did some research on the rates.

“The most likely combination to the penny, is this was an 8-ounce package, an envelope, with \$2,053,000 declared value in 1946. It probably held bearer bonds since it was sent registered mail. Today’s value would exceed \$32,008,000.” He estimated.

Once the stamps came into the building from the post office, they were put through a machine which made holes in the stamps, a perfin, with the initials, in this case, of the Harris Trust.

Jim Sneed

AUGUST MEETING:

SHOW & TELL: D. C. Locke, “My First Stamp Album.”

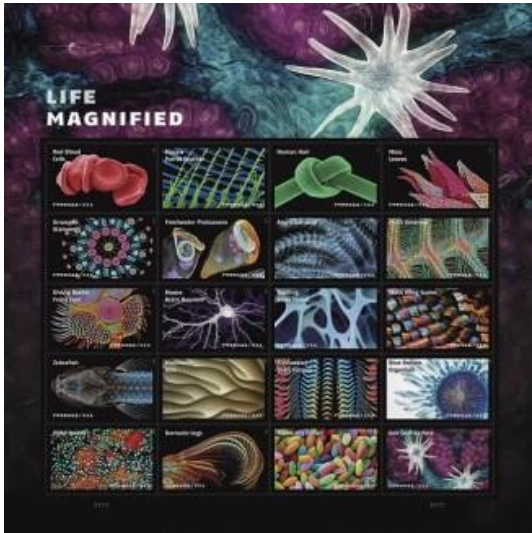
PROGRAM: Bob Anderson, Apollo 15 – a Philatelic Scandal

REFRESHMENTS: Fred Davis

We need refreshments for September. Notify Bob Anderson. Up to \$30 will be provided to the person(s) providing refreshments.



NEW ISSUES:



Life Magnified – Aug. 10 – Cleveland, OH; Thinking of You – Aug. 11 – Cleveland, OH;
Bridges – Aug. 14 – Portland, Oregon.
*Arrigoni Bridge, Middletown, CT; Bob Kerry Pedestrian Bridge, Omaha, NE
Skydance Bridge, Oklahoma City, OK; Iowa-Illinois Memorial Bridge,
Bettendorf, Iowa and Moline, Illinois*

COLUMBIA STAMP SHOW:



August 19 – 20, Spring Valley High School
Saturday: 10 – 5; Sunday: 10 – 4
Theme: 50th Anniversary of the All-Volunteer Military

**NEXT MEETING:
SUNDAY, AUGUST 13**

**Stamp show:
August 19-20**

