



Columbia Philatelic Society

APS chapter #043067

December 2023 Newsletter

Editor: Jerry Emanuel

(jemassoc2@gmail.com)

Commentary and updates: December 2023, the last month of the year. Celebration time! It's the most joyous month as we gather to enjoy friends, family and associates throughout the holidays.

It can, however, be a 'down' time for many seniors as family ties dwindle, friends are gone and loneliness can set in. Let us remember those of our club who do not get to our meetings. Contact them and wish them good tidings so they won't feel forgotten.

It's also a time to remember one of our longtime and benchmark members who has slipped away, closed his collection albums for the last time. We'll truly miss William (Bill) Mitchell who left us on November 28. He was a staunch and reliable member who was a collector with extraordinary knowledge and was a person you could share and enjoy his companionship. We wish Sandra, his wife, our most sincere wishes, condolences and gratitude for continuing to support Bill. A eulogy will be part of our annual holiday banquet.

As voted on at our last meeting, the new officers of the club are: President – Fred McGary; Vice President – Rick Miller; Secretary, Jerry Emanuel; Treasurer – Bob Anderson with Past President, John Owen serving as an ex-officio member. Mark Postmus remains director of the Columbia stamp shows.

A rewrite of the CPS Constitution and By-Laws has been undertaken and some additional help is necessary to make each document conform to each other. We'll learn more at the January meeting.

The Southeast Stamp Exhibit is scheduled for January 26 -28 at the Atlanta Hilton Northeast. The theme will be honoring former President Jimmy Carter as he approaches 100. A block of rooms has been set aside at a special rate. See me for details. Mick Zais and I will be presenting programs and we'll both be exhibiting.

Dues for the coming year (\$12) will be collected from now until February 28. Pick up a re-registration form at the banquet or January meeting.

John Owen

The next meeting will be **Sunday, January 21**, 2 p.m. at the TRI-CITY LEISURE CENTER, 485 Brooks Avenue, West Columbia.



A very Happy Birthday to: Doug Walker (3); Sidney Locke (4); Mick Zais (10) and Weston Bird (31)
Congratulations and many, many more.

IN MEMORIAM:



By Jim Sneed

I first met Bill about 1980, when the club was meeting at a bank on Millwood Avenue. I enjoyed his commentary on collecting trends (you always knew his opinion) and guidance.

As the years (and meeting locations) went by, we became closer friends. Eventually he recruited me into the CPS-North carpool group and I really got to know him as our crew gradually dwindled to Bill and me. I became ‘brother Sneed’ as our phone calls organized each outing. We kept each other entertained (and awake) up and down I-77 either in my Toyota or his PT Cruiser (eventually supplanted by a -less loved-van.) I had an inside track on his plans and progress on a number of naval postal history collections. The Great White

Fleet, USN WWII capital ships, and Tokyo Bay covers.

As Bill became less mobile, I became the designated chauffeur, an arrangement where each of us thought we were imposing on the other – he fearing I would resent always having to drive and assist him, and I thinking he shouldn’t always insist on paying for gas (and the mandatory ‘grease-fix’ of McDonald’s sausage).

The real joy of time with Bill was the wonderful and wide-ranging conversations. Almost any subject could come up: reminiscences on a career in Columbia and all the colorful characters he interacted with; local, state and national politics and politicians; sports (especially USC and the St. Louis Cardinals); and always a fascinating look into the history of the current subject, usually with an excellent recommendation on a book (or books) to read.

Bill is now permanently a part of my life. I have, unconsciously, adopted his tendency to refer to USC teams as “The Chicken” and to think of Social Security as “Bismarck’s Revenge.” When I find a neat cover or new book, I still want to call him and share the joy we all find in learning. Brother Bill, you will be missed.

Jim Sneed