



Columbia Philatelic Society

APS chapter #043067

December 2024 Newsletter

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Commentary and updates: **Happy New Year!** I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday



season. If you missed the CPS annual holiday banquet, you missed a good time with your CPS friends, a great meal and an interesting speaker, John Jacobs from Charlotte. He has an interesting background as a world-wide collector, a 10 cent show dealer and a describer for a major auction company.

Our first normal third Sunday meeting (Jan. 19) is going to be broadcast on ZOOM for those who cannot come to the meeting in person. The link and password will be emailed a few days before the meeting. I'm doing the program: a geography lesson using paquebot mail.

At the November meeting, the membership voted to increase dues to \$20/year. You can bring your dues to the meeting or send a check to treasurer Bob Anderson.

We try to have stamps and philatelic material to sell to members at the meetings and we usually give a \$10 door prize, so a lucky member can use it to buy some treasures. Bring some of your duplicates or other philatelic material to sell.

The weekend of January 24-26, the Southeastern Federation will have their annual stamp show at the Hilton Hotel Northeast in suburban Atlanta. This is the biggest stamp show south of Washington, D. C. and east of Texas every year.

Our winter show is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, February 22 & 23 at the Tri-city Leisure Center. Set up is Friday, the 21st. We'll be accepting your exhibits, 16 pages to a frame, so start putting your collections together. We'll also have a youth table. If you have any stamps, first day covers or other philatelic material you can donate to the cause, let Rick Miller or Anna Brannin know.

A calendar, with all the CPS meetings for 2025 has been published on our website, www.columbiascpilately.com Our meeting will change three times this year: Easter Sunday in April, Father's Day in June and our summer show and 90th anniversary in August. Check the website for those changes.

Fred McGary



The next meeting will be **Sunday, January 19**, 2 p.m. at the TRI-CITY LEISURE CENTER, 485 Brooks Avenue, West Columbia.



A very Happy Birthday to: Bill Lindsay (4); Janet Vollman (6); Bill Baabs (29).
Congratulations and many, many more.

PROGRAMS: THE ROMANIAN INTERNATIONAL SHOW

In April 2024, Mick Zais and Chris Lazaroff attended the EFIRO, the international stamp show held in Bucharest, the capital of Romania. Mick, a former Army brigadier general, is a member of the Columbia Philatelic Society. Chris is president of the Spartanburg (SC) stamp club and is on the organizing committee for Boston 2026, the next International Federation of Philately (FIP) stamp show.



“The plans right now call for having eight first day cover ceremonies for eight new stamps being issued at the show,” Chris mentioned, “one per day.” Chris is also working with foreign postal administrations to have their stamps released at Boston 2026.

“I think we can easily get 25 foreign first day ceremonies at the show,” he added.

“The Boston show will be held on the 250th anniversary of the United States,” said Mick, “and being in Boston is totally appropriate.”

The 2016 FIP show, which is held once every decade, filled the Javits Center in New York City. “It’s a huge show,” said Chris, “there are postal services and dealers from around the world attending. I think we had 4,000 frames of exhibits in 2016. We’ll have more in 2026.”

“Bucharest wasn’t damaged too much during WWII so there are some old parts of town still existing,” Mick said. “When the Soviet Union collapsed, a decision was made by someone that they were going to preserve about a 12 square block area as the “old town.” It’s a beautiful tourist destination, lots of outdoor cafes. There’s a celebratory atmosphere in that part of town,” Mick added.



The president of EFIRO, Ion Chirescu, opened the show with some remarks before cutting the ribbon. “The colors of the ribbon are the colors of the Romanian flag,” Chris said.

“The show itself produced a set of postcards reproducing three stamps and a souvenir sheet, the profits help fund the show,” Chris added.

“The new stamps were being issued on the first day of the show,” Chris stated, “and I reached out to the Romanian commissioner, a friend, and I asked him what Romania does for a first day ceremony, because I would like to be there. The Commissioner chose me as one of a few people to sign the poster, so I have now dedicated a Romanian stamp.” The first day ceremony consists of having certain people sign the poster and then the stamp is issued. There are no speeches and no other follow-up program.



“One reason to go to a show like this are the exhibits. In order to exhibit at the international level, one has to have won a certain award at the national level before the exhibit can be accepted internationally,” Chris advised.

“We went to the most amazing museum, called the Museum of Records,” Mick said. The entire five story building was purchased, renovated and turned into a museum by EFIRO president, Ian Chirescu. It houses the largest collection of everyday items in the world. Inside the museum are more than 100,000 Romanian stamps, over 35,000 pressing irons (to iron clothes), 15,000 trivets, microscopes, typewriters and corkscrews, among other items.



These are rooms dedicated to microscopes, typewriters and corkscrews at the museum. The corkscrews were recognized by Guinness as world records. The museum has received seven Guinness World Records.

THE BANQUET: The Columbia Philatelic Society banquet was held on Thursday, December 12, 2024 at the Ocean View Restaurant on Knox Abbott Drive, in West Columbia. Twenty-two members and their families enjoyed a choice of four types of fish, a chicken dish and a pork chop entrée.



The keynote speaker for the evening was John Jacobs, a member of the Charlotte stamp club who is also a stamp appraiser.

“The value of your stamps depends how you mount your collection,” he said. He added, he would only mount a stamp that had a catalog value of one dollar or more. “I couldn’t see mounting a 25-cent stamp into a mount that was costing me five cents,” he stated.

He mentioned there were things one should do to give your heirs some help with your stamp collection. “You have to organize your collections, he insisted, “you have to figure out what is valuable to you, so you can help your heirs resolve any issues.” He said to put all the valuable stamps in a separate album and mark that album, so your heirs know “that’s where the good stuff is.”

“If there are any provenances (a record of ownership used as a guide to authenticity or quality) write them down so your heirs know the history behind your treasures,” he implored.

When selling your collection, it will be much easier if everything is organized. “I sold my collection in 2022. It was in 95 boxes. I was very happy with what I got for it,” Jacobs said.

The Columbia Stamp Show is scheduled for February 22 – 23. “I encourage everyone to shop the dollar boxes or the dealer’s sale boxes, he said, “dealers are not experts on everything.”

He told two stories about dollar boxes: One collector bought a bunch of Italian Postage Due inverts for one dollar. “They ranged anywhere from \$5 up to \$68.

“The last time I was at a high school stamp show, I bought a People’s Republic of China souvenir sheet from a dealer’s dollar box. At auction, I made \$2,399 selling that sheet,” he said, smilingly. The key is, Jacobs explained, if you don’t read the information in your catalog, especially the fine print, you’re going to miss out on a lot of good buys from dollar boxes.



NEW STAMP ISSUES:



Lunar New Year

Jan. 14, Boston.

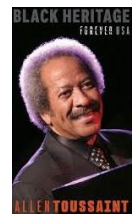
Love, Jan 17,

Kutztown, Pa.

Spiral Galaxy (2)

Jan. 21 Big Sky, MT.; Compass Rose, Jan. 24 Peachtree
Corners, Ga. (at the Southeastern Stamp Expo)

Allen Toussaint, Jan. 30, New Orleans



COLUMBIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY STAMP SHOW: SATURDAY – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22 - 23, TRI-CITY LEISURE CENTER, 485 BROOKS AVENUE, WEST COLUMBIA.

SATURDAY: 10AM – 5 PM SUNDAY: 10AM – 3PM

Classic U.S. Stamps, Covers, Postcards and Postal History

14 Professional Dealers

Exhibits by CPS members Stamp Appraisals

Show Cover with cachet and cancellation

FREE admission Door Prizes FREE Parking

Children's Stamp Table

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For information, Contact Mark Postmus, mapostmus@yahoo.com