



Columbia Philatelic Society

www.columbiascphilately.com

APS chapter #043067

February 2026 Newsletter

Editor: Jerry Emanuel

(jemassoc2@gmail.com)

Commentary and updates:



It's March and baseball training has started. Real spring is just around the corner. Mark Postmus has agreed to take over the position of treasurer. Of course, speaking of money, let's not forget, annual dues are due. A \$20



bill will get you all the benefits of belonging to the oldest active stamp club in South Carolina. We've been able to prosper because our great members continue to come up with interesting and exciting programs each month. If you go to our website you'll be able to see past newsletters, in which, are write-ups of all the programs for the past few years. If you need help in creating a program just ask, help will be on the way.

Our February stamp show was a huge success. Mark gives a report later in the newsletter. If you bought something at the show, bring it to the next meeting and tell us about it as a Show and Tell.

There are a number of stamp shows coming up this year. The first one is GwinnPex, the Stone Mountain, Georgia show. It's March 13 – 14 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It's being held at the Mountain Park UMC Family Life Center, 1405 Rockbridge Road, Stone Mountain.

The Morlatton Post Card Club's 49th annual postcard show is Friday, March 27 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, March 28 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. For more information: pegpens@gmail.com.

The Shelbyville Regional Postcard and paper memorabilia show is Saturday, April 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 204 Main Street, Shelbyville, Tennessee. Their show features, old currency, historic photos, civil war, maps, diaries, newspapers and vintage comic books.



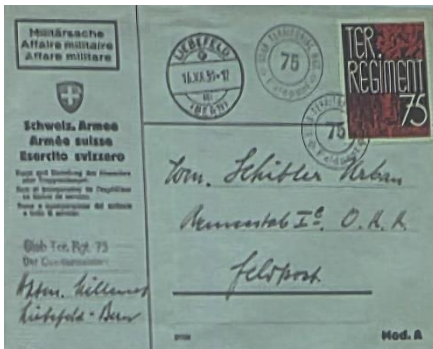
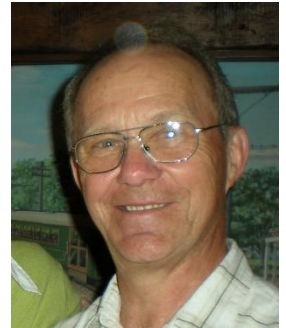
The next meeting will be **Sunday, March 15**, 2 p.m. at the TRI-CITY LEISURE CENTER, 485 Brooks Avenue, West Columbia.



A very happy **February** birthday to: Alex Haimann (9); Ron Gunzelman (20). **March** birthdays include: Barry Rickman (2); Bruce LaFleur (6); Anna Brannin (8); Annette Metz (18); Jerry Emanuel (22); Les Hall (24); Duane Mendenhall (29) Congratulations and many, many more.

PROGRAMS: SWISS SOLDIER STAMPS

“During WWII, design labels flourished,” said Marshall Blum. “These stamps were designed by company commanders or someone within that unit and the design selected reflected their unit’s activity during the war,” he added.



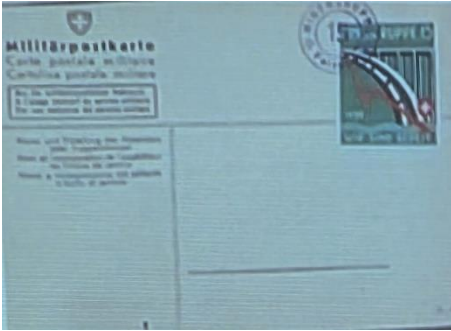
“If I look at a soldier stamp cover, I want one that has the company commander’s cachet along with the postal cancel,” Blum mentioned.

The company commander’s cachet is undated because the post office didn’t want to have someone other than a postal employee affixing a date stamper. If it does have a date on the cover, it would indicate the mail went into the regular mail

system.

Soldier’s mail from one company might interest another company. Sometimes on the back of one cover might be written, “We have some WW1 stamps for sale, but we won’t need them all, so if you want some let us know.” They were selling these stamps among themselves to generate funds to be used for recreation, like their version of the USO.





“There were times when the commanding officer would take a couple of covers, put his cachet on them and take them to a local beer hall,” Blum said. “Then he would negotiate a trade, free postage for beer.” These covers became known as Beer Hall covers. They never went through the mail.

Marshall Blum

THE ATLANTA STAMP SHOW

John Owen and David Crone went to Atlanta, the weekend of January 23 – 25. “It was the Southeast Stamp Expo,” John said, “with 22 dealers and 140 frames of exhibits.” It was sponsored by SEFSC, the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs. “Dave was wandering around a lot helping where he could,” John mentioned, “and then he moved around the exhibits a bit taking it all in.”



“I talked to a lot of dealers about counterfeits,” David said, “and set up a website so they could contact me.” (David Crone is an authority on finding and identifying counterfeit stamps). Because of his expertise on counterfeits, he’s been invited to do a presentation at next year’s Atlanta show. “Whenever I give away or sell anything I have to mark it as if it was cancelled, so I’ve got a little rubber stamp which says, ‘counterfeit, not valid for postage’ and I gave away envelopes to the dealers with that stamped on it,” he said.

David said his cousin came over, who had bought a bunch of stamps, about 1,300, “and I went through them, 18 different varieties, about half of them were new counterfeits we hadn’t seen before,” he warned. “The dealers were very surprised. Some had no knowledge of counterfeits,” he added.

John Owen & David Crone

ASSIGNMENTS: Rick Miller is the person who schedules the monthly programs and refreshments. “I have openings for programs for the months of July, August, September and October,” he advised, “and we need refreshments from March through October.” Don’t forget, the club will reimburse you, up to \$30, for refreshments to the meetings. If you need help putting a program together, just ask.

Rick Miller



COLUMBIA'S STAMP SHOW:

There was a nice turnout at our stamp show Valentine's Day weekend. Great weather encouraged people to get out and come to the show.

"We had a total of 144 guests, not counting all the members who attended," said stamp show chairman, Mark Postmus. We had 14 dealers who set up Friday morning. Guests started coming in the doors before the 11 a.m. start time.

"I want to thank all those who helped load and unload the dealer's inventory, and those who set up and took down the exhibits as well as those members who welcomed everyone at the registration table," Mark mentioned. Our next show is scheduled for September 25 – 26 and the winter show, 2027 will be held February 19 – 20, all shows will be in the gym at the Leisure Center.

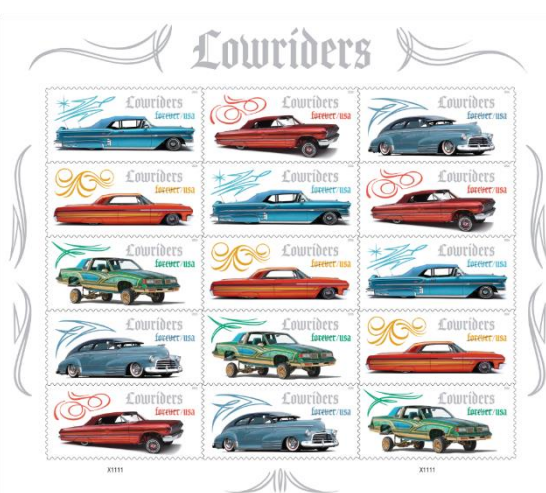
If you were able to buy something at the show, bring it to the next meeting as a Show & Tell.

"The Friday and Saturday arrangement for our shows is working out very well. There were a couple comments about changing to just one show a year," Mark said. "While this would cut my planning time in half, it would not reduce the amount of volunteer support and work required the weekend of the show. It would more likely increase the need for volunteers since it would be a slightly larger show, with more dealers and more expenses. In the past, most of the dealers liked the smaller two shows a year because the number of shows they have available are fewer and fewer. The decision to go with one show or remain with two shows a year, would mainly be determined by a consensus of the dealers," Mark concluded.



Mark Postmus

NEW ISSUES:



A sparse month for new issues:

Lowriders March 12
San Diego, California

Sunflowers March 14
Strongsville, Ohio

FEBRUARY PEOPLE AND EVENTS:



“There are a lot of people to honor in February,” said Rick Miller, “so here’s the list.”

Feb. 3: The first U. S. female physician, *Elizabeth Blackwell*, was born near Bristol, England and American artist and illustrator, *Norman Rockwell* was born in New York City; **Feb. 4:** Aviation pioneer, *Charles Lindbergh* was born in Detroit; **Feb. 6:** The “Sultan of Swat,” *Babe Ruth* was born in Baltimore and former president, *Ronald Reagan* was born in Tampico, Illinois; **Feb 8:** Novelist *Sinclair Lewis* came into the world in Sauk Center, Minnesota; **Feb. 8, 1910:** The *Boy Scouts* of America was founded by William Boyce in Washington, D. C. and Civil War General *William Tecumseh Sherman* was born in Lancaster, Ohio; **Feb 11:** American inventor, *Thomas Edison*, was born in Milan, Ohio; **Feb. 12:** “Honest” *Abe Lincoln* was born in Hardin County, Kentucky; **Feb. 14, 1849:** Photographer *Matthew Brady* took the first photo of a U. S. president in office, James K. Polk; **Feb. 15:** Inventor *Cyrus McCormick* was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia. He invented the mechanical reaper and *Susan B. Anthony*, activist and leader of the suffrage movement, was born in Adams, Massachusetts; Before it was combined with Abe Lincoln’s birthday into President’s Day, *George Washington* was born on **Feb. 21** in Westmoreland County, Virginia; **Feb. 23:** One of the founders of the NAACP, *W.E.B. DuBose* was born in Great Barrington, Massachusetts; **Feb.24:** Admiral *Chester Nimitz* was born in Fredericksburg, Texas; **Feb. 26:** Frontiersman, “Buffalo” *Bill Cody* was born in Scott County, Indiana and on Feb. **27:** American poet, *Henry Wadsworth Longfellow* got his start in Portland, Maine.