




Columbia Philatelic Society

APS chapter #043067

July 2024 Newsletter

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Commentary and updates: Greetings during our hot,  hot summer. Come to the meeting in the coooool rec center on July 21.

We have just passed one of this country's most important holidays, celebrating our independence from Great Britain, July 4, 1776. I hope you had a great day with your family and friends and you didn't get heat stroke tending the grill.

We could not have this day without all the people who have served in the military and defended this country and its values.

At our meeting this month we'll recognize our club members who served. I'd like you to give a short talk on which service, when and where you served.

Speaking of Great Britain, I went to a stamp show in Poland a few years ago. I was looking for covers at a dealer's table and couldn't find USA. I asked him where they were, and he said, "They're under British Colonies."

Our auctions with donated material were great and brought the club some funds. We don't have much donated material right now, so it's up to members to bring your items.

We have a surprise announcement coming at the meeting. You have to be there to be one of the first with the inside information. Stay cool!

Fred McGary



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



A very Happy Birthday to: Ken Ferguson (1); Michael Taylor (6); O'Neil Tyler (7); Mark Postmus (8); Bob Wilson (8); Jim Sneed (11); Dale Carruth (20); John Dulaveris (26); John Withers (29) Congratulations and many, many more

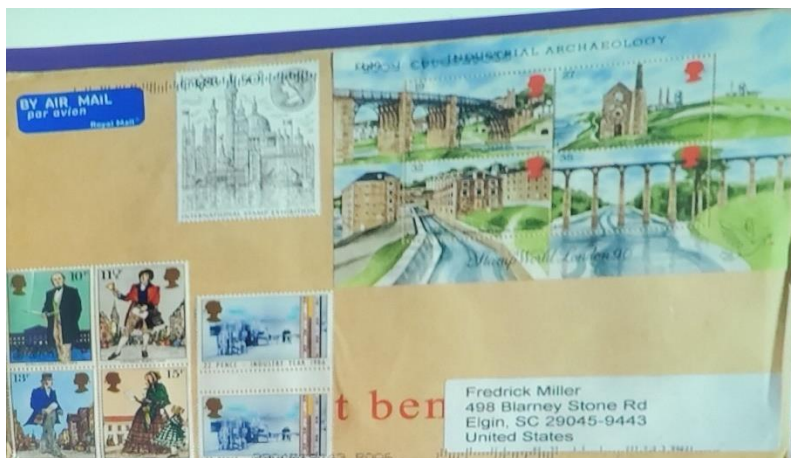
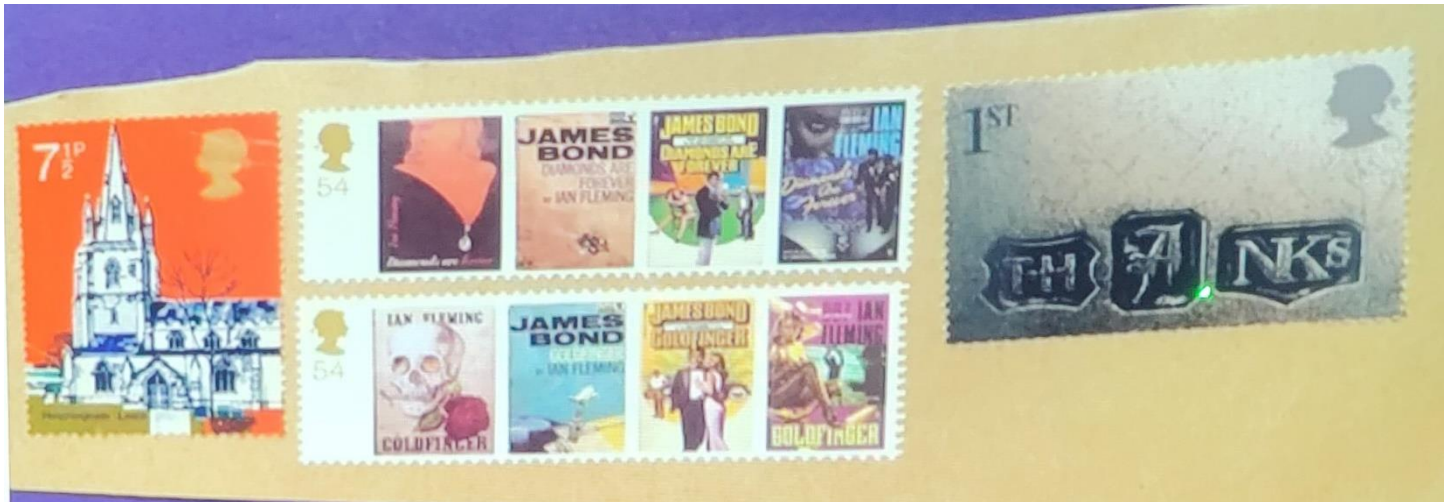
SHOW & TELL: “These are some of the stamps I’ve purchased recently through EBAY,” said Rick Miller. “I bought them because I think they’re really neat.”



“This one shows the Queen and, of all things, they’re honoring George, the third,” Miller added.



This one is honoring that master of intrigue, the one with a license to kill, British agent, James Bond and his many movies.



These are a set of stamps honoring the science of archeology



“This stamp is from Slovenia (formerly part of Yugoslavia) and the one below is a neat one from Singapore,” Miller added.



“I have others that are kind of a cartoon series. This is an actual first class rate postage,” Miller concluded.

Rick Miller

SHOW & TELL: I collect about 25 countries, one of which is Spain,” said David Anderson.



Anderson gave a brief history: In 1938, the Spanish Civil War was going very badly for the Republican side. The Fascists, under Francisco Franco were taking control of the country. The Republicans basically supported the monarchy and were desperate for money. Issuing postage stamps was one way to raise funds.

They had been issuing stamps anyway for use within their territory, Barcelona and surrounding areas. In 1938, they issued a set of six ‘submarine’ stamps.



Francisco Franco

The Republicans were using submarines to carry mail from the island of Minorca, which was offshore, one of the Spanish islands in Republican control. These stamps were sold primarily to collectors. “I’ve always thought they were very colorful, very nice stamps,” Anderson commented.

The submarine issues were six stamps, Scott number 608a to 608f. Three were released on a separate souvenir sheet, Scott #: 608G.

As per the 1977 Standard Scott catalog describing the issue, “One submarine voyage was made on the mail route between Barcelona and Mahon, Minorca carrying 300 agency prepared covers,” The stamps were also available for postage on ordinary mail. Numbers 605A-G were sold only at the Philatelic Agency in Barcelona at twice the face value.

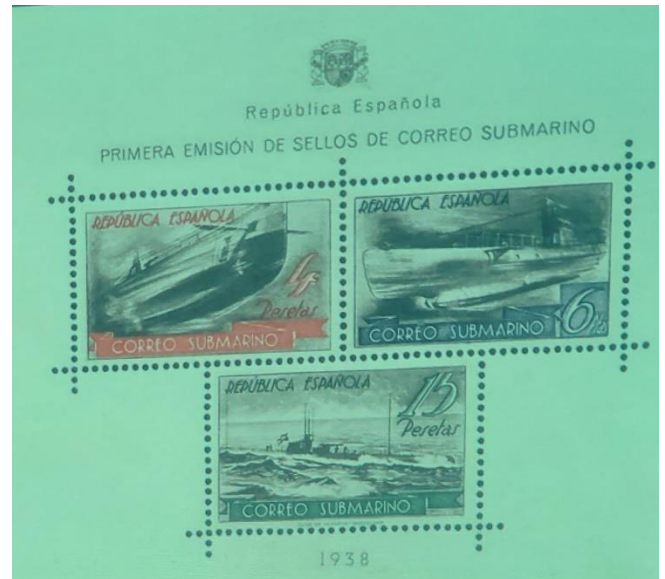
Anderson said one can get these online, but they’ll cost hundreds of dollars in mint, never hinged condition.

“I buy collections from dealers in Europe, particularly Smith’s Philately in Amsterdam. They had a collection of high-end Spanish issues, rare Spanish stamps from the 1920’s and 1930’s, catalog value \$2,000 to \$3,000. The submarine sheet was in there and the cost of the entire lot was \$500. It was something I wanted so I sent them the \$500,” he said.

When he received the stamps, he found a second submarine sheet and they were both mint, never hinged.

“These were genuine,” Anderson said, “with serial numbers on the back as per Spanish stamps of that era, but you must be careful.” Modern replicas of the souvenir sheet (at the right) exist, although the ones I’ve seen have a disclaimer on them which notifies the buyer it’s a replica.

“I was thrilled, of course, but I have no intention of breaking up that spare sheet to fill the blank spaces in the album which are just below the six individual submarine stamps,” Anderson said.



HOW I GOT STARTED: Back in the 1940’s, when I was in my pre-teens, I visited a local stationery store with my mother, and on a table I discovered packets of stamps, both foreign and U. S. Each packet cost under a dollar. My mother bought two or three for me.

Fast forward to the 1950’s. I was a member of one of the early stamp clubs – the Georgia-Carolina Stamp Club, with members from Augusta and various communities in South Carolina, just across the Savannah River.

When I met Al Valois, employed by the Savanna River Plant and a part-time stamp dealer in North Augusta, S. C., he recommended I purchase some first-class stamp albums to house my new collection of British Colonial stamps, including the Gold Coast, now Ghana.

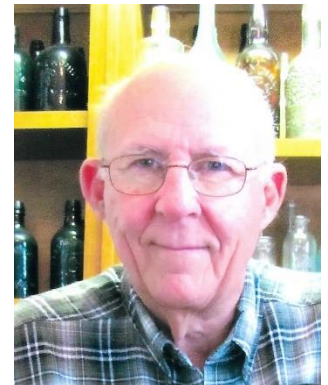
When actress Grace Kelly married Monaco’s Prince Rainier, I obtained some first day covers celebrating the event.

When my parents moved a couple of times, my collections went with them. When I visited a few years later I learned my collections were missing. Gone forever.

In the mid 1960’s, I purchased a first day cover album and filled it with new issues.

I’m a member of the American Philatelic Society and other stamp related organizations. I joined the Columbia Philatelic Society because I was interested in its newsletter.

Health issues prevent me from attending the monthly meetings, but I still keep in touch through the newsletters and friends from the club.



Bill Baabs

NEW ISSUES – JULY: 1 - cent Fringed Tulip; 2 - cent Daffodils; 3 - cent Peonies; 5 - cent Red Tulip and 10 - cent Poppies and Cornflower. Issue date: July 18. First day city: Berkeley, California 94704 for all five issues.

