



Columbia Philatelic Society

APS chapter #043067

March 2023 Newsletter

Editor: Jerry Emanuel

Commentary and updates: Here we are in the third month of the new year, we're experiencing spring weather with plenty of pollen, which plays havoc with my sinus allergies, this year in a more prolonged and discouraging way. Nevertheless, it behooves me to stay indoors and work on my stamp collections, emails, and CPS business.

For the first quarter, CPS has enjoyed a good turnout for meetings, but more attendees are always welcomed. We can accommodate a larger group of members, so come and fill the room.

The programs have been fantastic with members like DC Locke and Bob Anderson bringing their expertise and collecting 'delights' to share. However, we need more contributions by members like you. See Bob Anderson for help. Refreshment support is needed for the next quarter, (April to June) as are Show and Tell and feature programs. Get your name on the list or ask for assistance.

Our stamp show was a success. Thanks to all who worked and manned the registration table and those who set up and broke down the exhibits and tables. Thirteen dealers attended and when asked, said they had a very good show. The exhibits were unique and interesting. Along with me, other exhibitors included Mick Zais, Jerry Emanuel, Bob Wilson and Wayne Peelman. A big thank you for putting forth the effort and providing views of your collectibles.

I noticed a number of attendees looking at the exhibits and I explained to one lady what she was looking at. This was her first show and she was visibly pleased to be there. This personal interaction is a definite need and I encourage our members to engage our visitors while promoting our hobby.

A revision of the Constitution and By Laws is underway after a meeting with our officers. I still have to seek advice from the S. C. Secretary of State's office to make things official. I plan to present the revised documents to our members at the April meeting. Our current documents are out of date.

Thanks to our Vice President, Bob Anderson, for his presentation to our sister CPS (Charlotte) as their featured program earlier this month. He had reworked his program on Postal Mailing Tags and it went over as a 'must see' topic. Thanks, Bob, for sharing your collecting interest and promoting our shared hobby.

Have you visited the National Postal Museum in the nation's capital? You can see the current exhibits and programs by going online at www.postalmuseum.si.edu. You may also

receive the FREE updates and newsletter online by signing up and/or becoming a member of the society. The museum has a wealth of programs, educational information on its U.S. collection. Their goal is to preserve, display, teach, and share America's history.

Upcoming future stamp shows include: CHARPEX-23, the Charlotte show, July 29- 30 followed by the big GASS event in Cleveland, Ohio, August 10 – 13 at the Hall Convention Center.

John Owen



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



A very Happy Birthday to five of our members. Bruce LaFleur (6th); Annette Metz (18th); Jerry Emanuel (22nd); Les Hall (24th) and Louise Moeller (30th).

Congratulations and many, many more.

PROGRAMS: The N.Y. Postmaster's Provisional Stamp of 1845.



“Tom Droege of the Stamp Auction Network gave me the inspiration for this program,” Bob Anderson said. Bob also asked, “What is a provisional?” In this case it’s “a stamp used for a current need, with the intention of replacing it later. That’s what the New York provisional stamp was designed to do,” he added.

The Postmaster General spoke to Robert Morris, the New York Postmaster and told him a trial run was needed to see if the plan would work. The government, he said, had been observing Great Britain’s pre-paid stamps with great interest, especially the Penny Black.

The plan was to sell stamps ahead of time and they could be mailed in the future, not just when the post office was open. There could even be drop boxes. The Postmaster General, Cave Johnson, wanted to use New York as a trial balloon and Morris enthusiastically said yes.

On July 1, 1845, five years after the Penny Black was introduced, something very important happened to make the stamp more practical. “For the first time, the U. S. Post Office, a federal agency, standardized postage rates throughout the eastern part of the country,” Anderson said, “the five-cent stamp would take a letter less than 300 miles, and a 10-cent stamp would be delivered more than 300 miles.” This was really critical to making stamps make sense. If rates weren’t standardized, then you couldn’t have issued a five-cent stamp. You would have had to issue stamps in denominations of 1, 2, 3, and 4 cents too. Two weeks later, the N. Y. provisional stamp was approved.

Morris wrote to other postmasters and told them he had adopted a stamp which he sells for five cents each. He included one in the correspondence. The same day he received the stamps, July 12, he sent some to the postmasters of Boston, Albany (NY), Philadelphia and Washington, D. C. to let them know what was going on.

This is a second day cover sent with Morris’s letter which said to other postmasters, “Your office may not notice my stamp, but it will be governed by the Post Office stamp of pre-payment, which is the hand stamp, not the postage stamp. Notice, the only thing cancelling the stamp is the word, Paid,” he wrote.



Morris worried about fraud, that the stamps could be reused. The solution: The postmaster would initial all stamps prior to their sale. Morris signed the first batch to set the pace of the new program. Then he got his brother-in-law, Alonzo Monson, to sign some, and he did, two different ways. Monson got his brother-in-law, Marecena Monson, Jr., to add his initials to some stamps. Today, who signed what stamps determines their value.

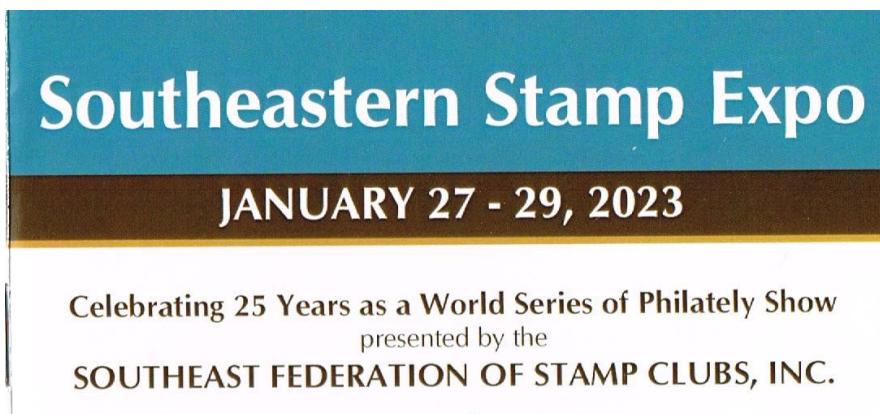
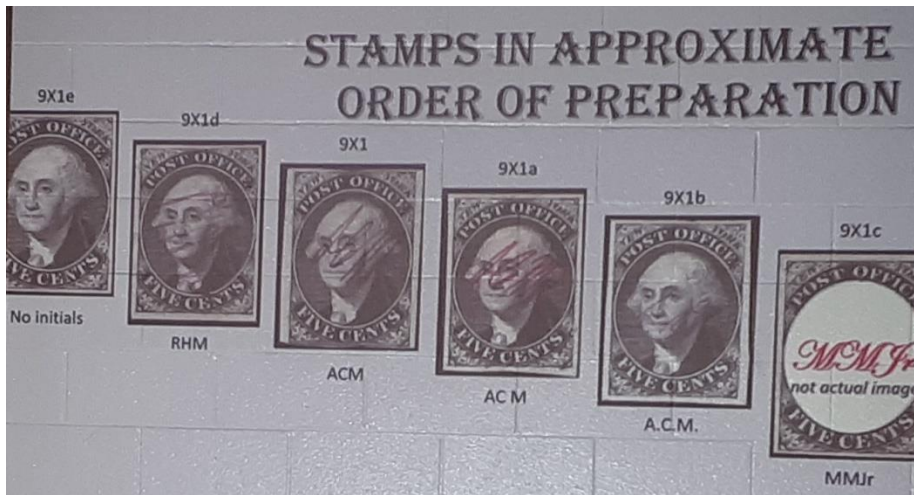
INITIALS ARE ADDED TO STAMPS

- Postmaster Morris personally signs ‘RHM’ in red ink on a few sheets. He then delegates the task.
- Most stamps are signed ‘ACM’, ‘AC M’ by Alonzo Castle Monson, the postmaster’s brother-in-law.
- Some stamps are signed ‘A.C.M.’ or the much scarcer ‘MMJr’ by Marecena Monson, Jr., brother of Alonzo.

On July 1, 1847, the U. S. Postal Service issued the first nationwide stamps replacing the New York provisional stamps. “All this work was in preparation for the introduction of a

replacement stamp, which, we have learned, is the definition of provisional,” Anderson concluded.

Bob Anderson



John Owen attended the Southeastern Stamp Expo in Atlanta the last weekend in January. “There were 21 dealers,” he said, “they do charge for admission but the \$5 covers all three days.” Owen exhibited at the show. “I showed stamps of the 1959 Pan American Jamboree, held in Auckland, New Zealand, a collection I put together when I was 18 years old. I update it regularly,” he said. His exhibit received the Silver-Bronze award.

He said the largest society at the show was the United Postal Collector’s Society. They had 88 frames of exhibits of the 160 available. They also held their annual meeting there. The African-American group, ESPER, was there as well.

“Scott Ward received the Roland Hill Award for his 10 years as director of the Expo. Hill was the inventor of the postage stamp. He reorganized the British Postal Service.

John Owen

NEW ISSUES:



Author Toni Morrison
March 7, Princeton, N. J.
Railroad Stations
March 9, Cincinnati, Ohio
Art of the Skateboard
March 24, Phoenix, AZ



CPS 2023 AUCTION RULES AND GUIDELINES

A limit of 10 items/per member/per meeting will be a standing rule. Items belonging to CPS may number more than ten.

1. An auction slip will be attached to each item providing following info:
 - a. Name of seller
 - b. Description of item
 - c. Scott catalog #; value; estimated value
 - d. Reserve or minimum bid or a minimum of \$1.00
2. All auction items will be provided a label (furnished by the auctioneer) with lot # printed to identify the item being submitted for auction.
3. Items are to be separated as follows: US and foreign (no mixed lots); albums & supplies; literature
4. Members placing bids will use a colored round label and place their name on label, attaching to item the member is bidding upon. Labels to be furnished by CPS.
5. Auctioneer sets rules of auction based on all of the above but bidding will increase in increments, i.e.
 - a. Items below \$20 will start a \$1 or the reserve or minimum bid placed upon item by seller
 - b. Bids will increase by \$1 between bidders as offered by auctioneer until sold to highest bidder
 - c. Bids reaching \$20, then increment minimum bid will increase by \$5 till sold
 - d. When winning bid is accepted, the buyer will be identified, and item is delivered to buyer
 - e. Items NOT sold will be returned to owner OR may be donated to CPS
6. Auction recorder (ass't treasurer) tracks sales of winning bidders, the amount of winning bids. The buyer will settle up with the auction recorder (ass't treasurer) at end of auction and may pay by cash or personal check (made out to CPS). Sales of items offered by outside parties (non-CPS members),

an accounting will be completed and amount due the 3rd party will be paid by check accordingly.

7. The winning bid and sale are final for each item; no returns of sales will be allowed.
8. ANY item assigned to the club to be sold at the auction will be recognized by auctioneer.
 - a. Any club member may submit his/her own material or that of another CPS member. CPS will retain a 10% sales commission on submitted, sold items. Unsold or unbid items will be returned to or picked up by the seller or may be donated to the CPS.
 - b. Any item being sold NOT owned by the club but submitted by a third party, a commission of 20% will be charged against the winning bid up to value of \$50; 25% commission on value up to \$100 and 30% commission on sales over \$100. That is commission for EACH item sold, not the aggregate.
9. A CPS auction committee, appointment by the President, will assemble the auction items ahead of the scheduled auction and review auctionable items, determine their validity as described (CPS member, CPS donated materials or on behalf of another CPS member not in attendance at auction). This committee is an advisory body to the auctioneer. The committee will consist of 3 CPS members.
10. Other: _____

