



## Columbia Philatelic Society

APS chapter #043067

March 2025 Newsletter

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**Commentary and updates:** Congratulations to Mark Postmus and all our members who helped our Winter Stamp Show become a rousing success. We had a wonderful turnout, many first-time visitors who enjoyed searching for stamps and postcards among our vendors and those who marveled at the unique exhibits our members displayed. The kids table was a hit. Anna Brannin and Bob Anderson worked really hard to make a young person's first stamp experience a positive one. That's how we build interest in our hobby for future generations. The Post-crossing group was buzzing with excitement as they filled out their postcards prior to mailing. We even managed to entice a few people to become members of the Society.



I received a phone call from Jim Richardson recently who informed me he's got a large collection of past APS magazines he'd like to offer to our members. In spite of the age of the magazines, there's always good information in them that are of interest to collectors. If you're interested, give Jim a call at 803-467-2065. He lives in Lexington, S. C.

We had 17 members at our March meeting along with two visitors. A couple people tuned in to the meeting via Zoom. We give the login information and password for our Zoom meetings a couple of days prior to the meeting.

There's a stamp show coming up. Gwinnpex is being held at the Mountain Park UMC Family Life Center, 1405 Rockbridge Road, Stone Mountain, Georgia, May second and third. According to Allen Johnson, the bourse offers free parking, admission and reasonably-priced refreshments from the concession stand.

**Bruce LaFleur** is at home these days surrounded by his stamp albums. He's usually working on them seven hours daily. He'd like some visitors to drop by to share the hobby and chit chat. He's at Merrill Gardens Assisted Living at 2205 Gregg Street, downtown, suite #328. Give him a call and let him know you're coming (803) 602-2794)

*Fred McGary*



The next meeting will be **Sunday, March 13**, 2 p.m. at the TRI-CITY LEISURE CENTER, 485 Brooks Avenue, West Columbia.



A very Happy Birthday to: Fred McGary (13); Beverly Triber (14); Scott English (21).  
Congratulations and many, many more.

**PROGRAMS:** As most of you know, I collect stamps with a Boy Scout theme. Scouting began in the U. S. in 1910, but had its inception in Great Britain by Lord Baden-Powell in 1907. Baden-Powell was an Army officer who served in South Africa during the second Boer War.



“He was ordered to defend a railroad junction called Mafeking. He had about 200 defenders and they faced more than 7,000 Boers, who were Dutch,” said John Owen.

He was told to organize the defense and then he’d be relieved by fresh troops. He set up a perimeter around the town and he kept shifting the defenses around, so the Boers would think he had more men and weapons than he actually had.

“Baden-Powell formed a cadre of young men, primarily boys, to carry mail, messages and do other errands that were needed. He developed a uniform for them, about 20 boys. These young men were the first examples of scouting,” Owen added.

The siege was lifted after 217 days.



While he was in South Africa, postage stamps ran out. They had already overprinted British stamps with Mafeking Siege and they were getting low. The postmaster and one of Baden-Powell’s assistants had to print more stamps. At issue, who’s picture would appear on the stamp? Usually, the reigning Royal’s visage appeared on all stamps, but they designed two stamps with Baden-Powell’s image

When he returned to England, he organized a group of about 20 young men who wanted to know more about camping, so he took them

Lord Robert  
Baden-Powell

to Roundsea Island, just off the British coast.

“By that time,” Owen said, “he had written a book, *Scouting for Boys*.” Within three years, there were over 30 different countries who had established a scouting program. It was the fastest growing youth program in the world. It’s still the largest youth program in the world.

William Boyce was an American living in London. He got lost in a fog when a youngster found him and took him to an address he was seeking. The boy wanted no reward and identified himself as a Boy Scout.

“After meeting with Lord Baden-Powell, Boyce brought the program to the United States, New York City, in February 1910,” Owen remarked.

Nineteen fifty-seven was a landmark year. It commemorated the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Baden-Powell and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of scouting.

“A world Jamboree was held in London which drew 35,000 scouts from around the world, plus an additional 15,000 who wouldn’t fit,” Owen said.

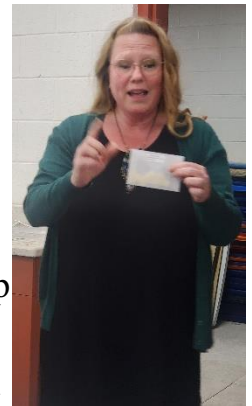
Great Britain issued a set of three stamps honoring the Jamboree.



*John Owen*

## SHOW AND TELL: (WHAT DID YOU BUY AT THE STAMP SHOW?)

“We went directly to the kid’s table,” said Hanna Tvedten, one of our newest members, “which was pretty cool.” Bob Anderson, the club’s treasurer had created two stamp albums specifically designed for youngsters new to the hobby of stamp collecting. He included everything needed to be a successful collector, including a packet of stamps. Everything was given to a visitor at no charge. “We used the stamps which were included with the stamp album and it was all free,” Hannah excitedly said. “My favorite part,” she explained, “there were directions on how to use hinges, because I’ve never used hinges before. It was so fine, so well presented, this was the best thing I got at the show.”



*Hannah Tvedten*

“I like professional football,” said Linda Hazlett, “I’ve got George Halas first day covers.” Halas played professional football as a tight end, coach of the Chicago Bears and was the owner of the franchise. Out of the top 100 Chicago Bears, he ranks number 37, according to Linda.

“Red Grange was number 36 and I’ve got a first day cover of him too,” she said. The very first play run by the Bears was “Papa Bear Left,” which was George Halas’ nickname. The Super Bowl cache’s that came out in 1986 had “Papa Bear” on it.

“I also found a first day cover of William “The Refrigerator” Perry and the one I have says number four of six. Does this mean there were only six done?” she asked.

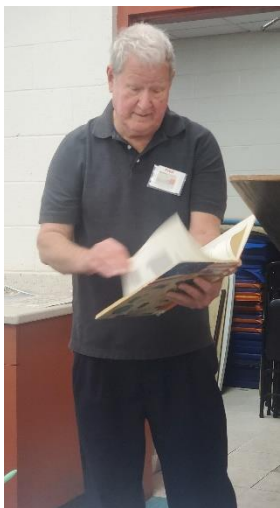
She also found a first day cover of Red Grange and Bronko Nagurski. “Nagurski was quite a character,” she added.

Why her interested in football, especially George Halas? “George Halas married Minnie Bushing. Minnie’s brother William was my great-great grandfather.”

She told a story about Red Grange. Everyone loved to meet him. The Bears took a trip, 19 games in 66 days. Grange would always get mobbed every time the train stopped at different cities. He’d wear a hat and carry George Halas’s daughter, Virginia, so he could get through the crowd undetected.



*Linda Hazlett*



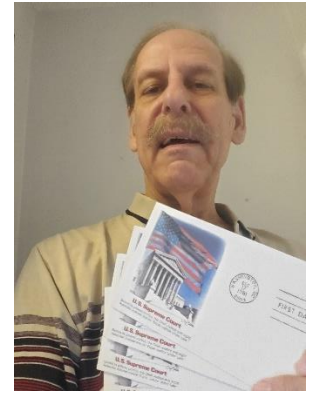
“I have a U. S. stamp album,” said Fred McGary. He said the album has an introductory page on the front, explaining how to put a hinge on a stamp and there’s a page for each state where you can put a state flag sticker.

“There are a couple of pages in the back showing later U. S. stamps from the 1950’s and that’s the only thing that’s been done with the album in fifty years,” he said.

He explained that some lady who runs a retail shop in Greer (S.C.) donated the album to the club. She mailed it after she found it in the attic. She also sent along \$100 worth of usable postage. I usually get a call about once a week from people who have inherited or found an album and they want to know its worth. “Most of the time, the contents aren’t worth much,” he added.

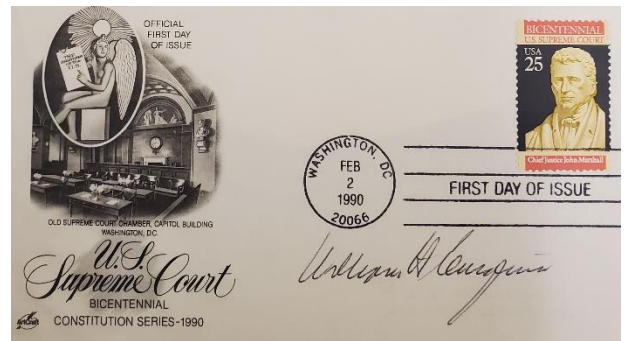
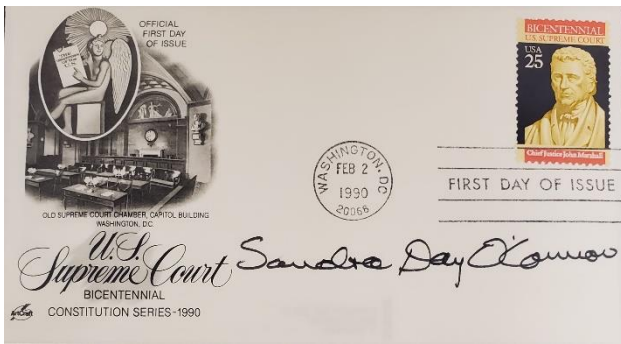
*Fred McGary*

“In the dollar box I found five Supreme Court first day covers with a cachet showing the Supreme Court building in front of a waving American flag,” said Jerry Emanuel. Since I collect autographs on first day covers, these will go to the Supreme Court with a letter asking the justices for their signatures.



The 20-cent stamp showing the flag flying over the Supreme Court was issued December 17, 1981 commemorating the highest court in the land. It was part of the 1981 U. S. Flag set.

“Once they’re returned, hopefully signed, they’ll join Sandra Day O’Connor and William Rehnquist in my collection,” he added.

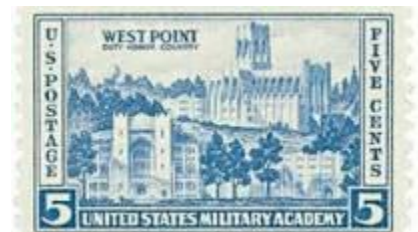
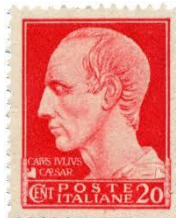


*Jerry Emanuel*



“As I’m prone to do on occasion, special holidays and stamps tend to blend together,” said Rick Miller, “and I’ll try to find the connection.”

The Ides of March, the day Roman Emperor Julius Caesar was assassinated, March 15, 44 BCE, is commemorated by these stamps from France and Italy. March 16 is the 233<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the founding of the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, New York.



“These three stamps are from Ireland and celebrate St. Patrick’s Day,” Miller added.



*Rick Miller*