



Columbia Philatelic Society

APS chapter #043067

October 2024 Newsletter

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Commentary and updates: Cooler weather seems to be here. The holiday season is quickly approaching, and your officers are discussing our annual banquet. We could return to the Grecian Gardens. Another suggestion was the Ocean View Restaurant. If you have a favorite, let us know at the meeting and we'll investigate.

Good news. The February stamp show is already scheduled for the 22nd and 23rd at the Leisure Center. The vendors and customers seemed to be happy with the location, so we booked everything for February. We'll be able to add new features that were not at our August show. The post office should have new issues available and we'll have to find a theme for the show which will be featured on our show cachet. Exhibits will return, so plan now to put together your best stamps to exhibit. There were quite a few kids at the August show, so we'll have a 'kids table,' Anna Brannin and Bob Anderson are in charge and will have plenty of stamps for youngsters to keep while starting their collections. Mystic Stamp Company has sent stamp collecting kits to our show in the past and we're asking members to donate some stamps too.

The Southeastern Stamp Expo is scheduled for January 24 – 26 in Atlanta. There's more information later in the newsletter. The Great American Stamp Show (GASS) will be held in Schaumburg, Illinois, about 30 minutes from Chicago. There's a shuttle from O'Hair to the convention center for a fee. In 2026, GASS will be in Boston.

We had a couple of visitors at our September meeting. Craig Nodine is also a life-long coin collector. "I've collected postcards for more than 20 years," he said, "and never paid much attention to the stamps on them." He also collects antique bottles, rocks, Hot Wheels and rare books. "Basically," he added, "I collect collections!" Craig became a CPS member at the last meeting.

Randy Bradley attended our August show. He collects United States. Instead of a multitude of albums, Randy made home-made albums (14 of them) with every iteration of the stamp on one page: single, plate block and first day cover.

There's been talk about putting our meetings on Zoom. Let's talk about it Sunday.

Fred McGary



The next meeting will be **Sunday, October 20**, 2 p.m. at the TRI-CITY LEISURE CENTER, 485 Brooks Avenue, West Columbia.



A very Happy Birthday to: Jennifer Miller (3); Linda Hazlett (3); Susan Postmus (6); Martin Miller (10); Frank Weick (24); Midge Mirabella (30).
Congratulations and many, many more.

PROGRAMS: MY VISIT TO THE NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM

“I didn’t even know it existed until a few years ago,” said Anna Brannin, “if you go, there are a few ways to get into the building.”

According to club president, Fred McGary, the museum is far away from the rest of the Smithsonian, so you don’t even know it’s there.

The building was erected in 1914 and served as the Washington, D. C. post office from that year until 1986. Brannin said there’s a research library inside, plus a stamp store and museum shop. “There’s a cool counter where they have free postcards,” she added.

The national collection was established in 1886. From 1908 to 1963 it was housed in the Arts and Industry building. In 1964, they temporarily moved the exhibit to the museum now known as the National Museum of American History, and in 1993 it was moved to the present location. The collection consists of 5.9 million items.



“These exhibits are very visually engaging,” Anna said, “they were very creative with their displays. They also have an exhibit of different mailboxes.” She said the exhibits were very informational. “One thing I personally liked was there was something for everyone. If you wanted to learn about stamps, the processes, the mailing of the letters and the inner workings of the post office, there was information about all of that,” she added.

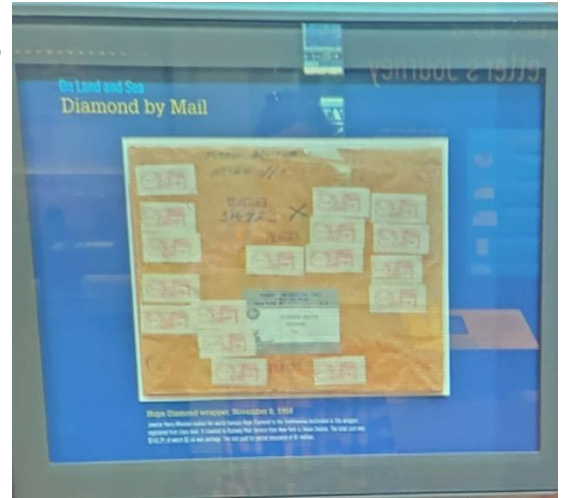


“They also had a lot of literature on stamp collecting,” Anna mentioned, “there was a poster of stamp collecting tools and their use.” She said they did a great job of utilizing space. Even in the corridors, there was information and signage.

They even had a website where you could find a local club. “Yes,” she said, “we were listed!”

There was a hallway with pictures of celebrities who were, or are, stamp collectors. They did have historical artifacts displayed as well.

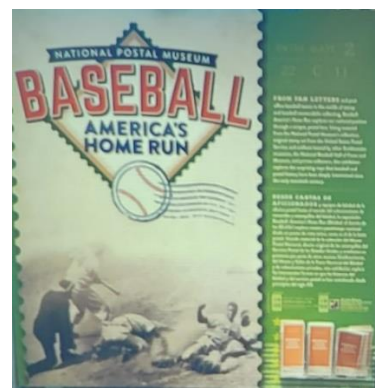
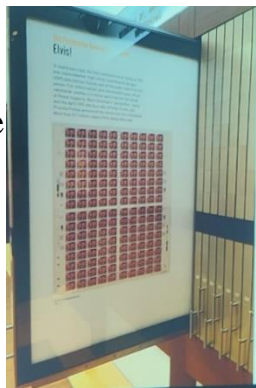
“This is the envelope that Harry Winston used to mail the Hope Diamond,” Anna remarked. There was also a mailbox which was recovered after the September 11th attack in New York City. As one turned the corner, there was a table full of stamps. “You were allowed to pick six and, of course, that’s all I took,” she commented. “I didn’t cheat!” she added.



The table of stamps, she said, was surrounded by children. They thought it was so cool that they could just dig through and pick out some really neat stamps.

Past that table, there was a long room which housed the National Stamp Collection. “It looks very plain when you walk in, but there are these pullouts, where they store the stamps. It was so overwhelming because there were so many. You could spend a whole day in that room.

They also have a baseball exhibit because many baseball players have appeared on postage stamps: Jackie Robinson, Eddie Collins, Christy Matthewson, Ty Cobb, George Sisler, Rogers



Hornsby, Mickey Cochrane, Babe Ruth, Walter Johnson, Roberto Clemente, Lefty Grove, Tris Speaker, Cy Young, Jimmie Foxx, Pie Traynor, Satchel Paige, Honus Wagner, Josh Gibson, Dizzy Dean and Lou Gehrig. These 20 players appeared on the “Legends of Baseball” sheet issued July 6, 2000. “They also had James A. Farley’s chair on exhibit,” said Anna. Farley played high school baseball and was a life-long fan. He was the 50th Postmaster General during the administration of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. “As he was rising through the ranks of New

York politics, he used to do a lot of business sitting in that chair at Yankee Stadium,” Anna added.

Downstairs seemed to be the older section of the museum and that’s where the gift shop was. “I had planned to spend some money there,” she said, “but all I spent was \$20. They didn’t have as much to sell as I thought they would. I would have bought all the Mr. Zips, a tote bag, a sweatshirt, but they didn’t have those things,” she lamented.

Anna Brannin

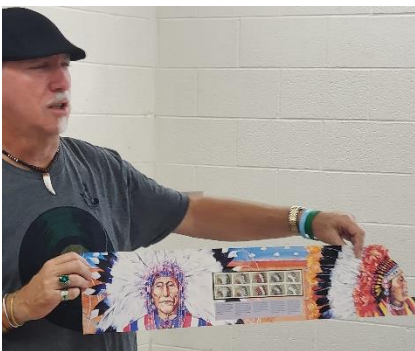


WHAT DID YOU BUY AT OUR STAMP SHOW?

I went to the stamp show not knowing what it was about. I really didn’t know what my interests were, so I thought about Indiana, where I’m from, and I wondered if they had any post cards from Valparaiso, which is where I grew up. Sure enough, I found some postcards showing the city as it was back in the day. Some showed Main Street, the courthouse area, and the university. There was one of Flint Lake, where I lifeguarded at 17. I even found one of Longstreet Theatre in Columbia when it was the science hall in 1908.



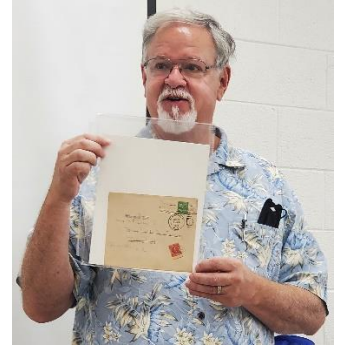
Linda Hazlett



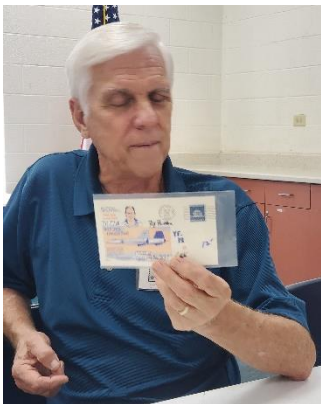
The dealer asked me what I was looking for and I told him I collect, among others, Native American stuff. He handed me this and asked if I had ever seen anything like it. He opened it up and I saw the 29-cent war bonnet set. I asked him how much, expecting a figure I couldn’t afford. When he said, “five dollars,” I cried out “Sold!” I thought it would make a great presentation in a frame for my Native American collection.

D. C. Locke

I've always been wanting a cover with this franking for years and I found one at the show. I titled my show and tell, "How much work would you do for ½ cents?" This is a solo franking of a ½ cent postage due stamp. It's more common in sets of three, but I've never seen a single stamp on a letter. You've got to hand it to the Bloomfield postmaster or clerk in 1946, who reached into his drawer and took out a ½ cent stamp, postage due, and very carefully, pulled it off the sheet of stamps to affix to this letter. Then he cancels it nicely and he finds his hand stamp which says, "Postage Due _____ cents." Then he gets his pen and writes ½ in the blank on the hand stamp. I assume he collected the ½ cent. We wondered how the recipient paid the postage due.



Bob Anderson



This was my very first stamp show. I joined the American Topical Association (ATA) earlier this year after listening to Martin Miller talk about topicals. I was interested in starting a small collection. Everything I saw was big stuff: cats, dogs, fish, boats, etc. I've always had an interest in airplanes. From my time in the Airforce I was familiar with the SR-71, the Blackbird, so I figured I'll look for planes, specifically, the SR-71. When I Googled, I found there *was* some stuff out there about the plane.

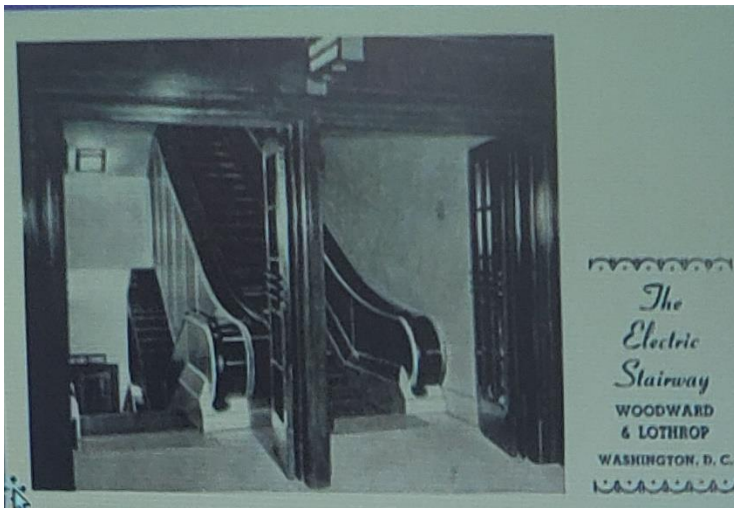
David Anderson took me to a vendor at the show and told me he had envelopes, covers, on the SR-71. It seems the pilots did covers like the astronauts did with the space program where the pilots and copilots signed their covers. I've got about a dozen of these envelopes signed by the pilots and copilots. It was an interesting way to start my topical collection.



Andy Banco

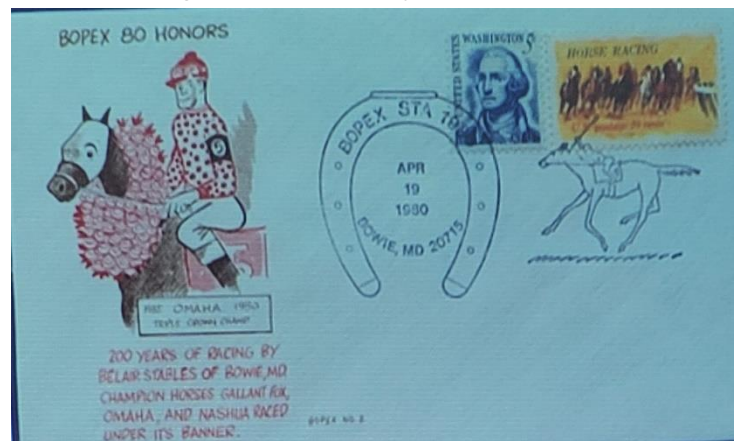
In Washington, D. C., there was a department store named Woodward and Lothrop. I was going through the postcard files at the show and came across a photo of one of the earliest escalators, which just happened to be in the "Woodies" store. The store encompassed a whole city block, nine or ten stories tall. (A true department store, they carried a huge variety of products from domestic and international retailers and were on the cutting edge of fashion. Some departments sold clothing, furniture, travel advice, toys and





so much more. The store epitomized the terms, “full service” and “One-stop-shop.” As shoppers moved to the suburbs, W & L couldn’t keep up and they closed in 1995.) When Bob Anderson and I were sitting at Tony Crumley’s table, he pulled out of a box an envelope with a West Point cancel from the sesquicentennial year, 1952. That got added to my collection.

This is a cover from BOPEX. The city of Baltimore had a stamp show and what they honored at the time was the Belair Stables on the cover. If you’re familiar with the Preakness Stakes, Maryland is also a big horse racing area. From the Belair Stables came many triple crown winners, “Omaha” being one of them. I also found a cover with the transportation series, showing an electric car stamp. It’s colorized two different ways.



Rick Miller

UPCOMING STAMP SHOWS:

GWINNPEX, October 18 – 19, Stone Mountain, Georgia.

Over 25 tables available, a Boy Scout representative, a youth table with free stamps for anyone 18 and under and several part time collectors/dealers.

Held at the Mountain Park United Methodist Church Family Life Center, 1405 Rockbridge Road, Stone Mountain, Ga. 30078.

Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Admission and parking are free.

Hotels: Country Inn and Suites by Radisson, 1852 Rockbridge Road, (770) 465-6515

Southeastern Stamp Expo, January 24 – 26, 2025, Atlanta, Georgia

20 plus dealers, 140 exhibit frames, seminars, awards.

Venue: Hilton Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd, Peachtree Corners, Ga.

Theme: The 250th anniversary of the U.S. Postal System and Ben Franklin as first

Postmaster General. More information coming.

NEW STAMP ISSUES:



September
And
October



September 15: **First Continental Congress, 1744**, Washington, D. C.; September 14, **Madonna and Child**, Washington, D. C.; September 14, **Holiday Joy**, Washington, D. C.; September 19, **Hanukkah**, Washington, D. C.; September 25, **Kwanzaa**, Pittsburg, Pa; October 1, **Healthcare Community**, Washington, D. C.; October 10, **Winter Whimsey**, Park City, Utah.