

Scribblings



---from the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library

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Phone - 303-759-9921

2038 So. Pontiac Way, Denver, CO, 80224
<http://www.collectors-mail.com/philib/RMPL.htm>

March - April 1997
E-Mail - RMPL@aol.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING at the RMPL

"come and enjoy the activities"

March 1997

Mondays: March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Open 10-4

Thursdays: March 6, 13, 20, 27 Open 2-8

Saturdays: March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Open 10-4

March 1 - Meeting - 10:00 AM

Scandinavian Collector's Club

March 5 - Meeting - 7:30 PM

Aurora Stamp Club

March 6 - Meeting - 7:00 PM RMPL Board

March 13 - Meeting - 7:30 PM

Topical Philatelists In Colorado

March 17 - Meeting - 7:30 PM - Stamp Night

Open Trading (and Selling) Night

Sponsored by the Aurora Stamp Club

Open to all collectors

March 22 - Meeting - 2:00 PM

China Stamp Society

March 25 - Meeting - 7:30 PM

ROMPEX Committee

April 1997

Mondays: April 7, 14, 21, 28 Open 10-4

Thursdays: April 3, 10, 17, 24 Open 2-8

Saturdays: April 5, 12, 19, 26 Open 10-4

April 2 - Meeting - 7:30 PM

Aurora Stamp Club

April 3 - Meeting - 7:00 PM RMPL Board

April 5 - Meeting - 10:00 AM

Scandinavian Collector's Club

April 10 - Meeting - 7:30 PM

Topical Philatelists In Colorado

April 15 - Joint Meeting - 7:00 PM

Cherrelyn and Denver Stamp Clubs

April 21 - Meeting - 7:30 PM - Stamp Night

Open Trading (and Selling) Night

Sponsored by the Aurora Stamp Club

Open to all collectors

April 22 - Meeting - 7:30 PM

ROMPEX Committee

April 26 - Meeting - 2:00 PM

China Stamp Society

THE STATE OF THE RMPL

by Don Beuthel

At some appropriate point in time it has become traditional for the chief executive officer of an organization to comment on the health of that particular entity. Perhaps it is proper then that I comment on the health of the RMPL after our 1st six months of operation in our own building at our new location.

It is with some degree of amazement, and pleasure, that I can report to you that as of the end of our first six months of "independent" operation the RMPL appears to be in good shape. It is hard to believe that it has been six months since we had our Grand Re-opening on August 3rd. So much has happened and so fast!

As you can see in the Membership Report [elsewhere in this issue] we are making good progress. We have averaged over 1 new member each week. Our membership renewals, while not 100%, are pretty good when you consider the length of time that we were inoperative. Each of the membership renewals has been at the same membership level as before or increased - none have dropped a level.

The contributions of philatelic literature material continue to arrive at a rate that astounds us and our hard working Volunteers have been able to process the material promptly, although we do have a large backlog of books to be cataloged by our Volunteer RMPL Librarian, Ellengail Beuthel. We have had to buy eight new metal shelves to give us some room to breathe and to expand. People continue to contribute financially and we have been the recipient of a very nice philatelic collection, also.

Our financial picture appears to be reasonably good. We are making the payments on the mortgage and we are paying the bills for the necessary services to keep the doors open. Our budget for the year appears to be realistic and it appears to be at a level that we can continue.

What pleases those of us who are directly involved with the RMPL is that people are now starting to use the library - for meetings, for research, for help, and for a place to congregate for the fellowship of the hobby. It is truly becoming

what we had hoped - the Philatelic Center of the Rocky Mountain Region.

Lest we feel too satisfied, there is much work to be done. We need to secure a grant from some philanthropic organization to improve the exterior of the library. The building itself needs some work (painting and repair) and we need to repair the parking areas. This has not been included in our yearly budget because we do not have the funds for that, so we must seek outside help. Early this spring we will put out the call for a "clean-up Saturday" and hope that many will respond to work on our exterior appearance. We want to be a good neighbor to the surrounding residences and business so the exterior appearance of the RMPL is important.

We need to get started with a scheduled Acquisitions Program for new reference materials. We feel that this fund could be started from the sales of surplus material - possibly a "Book Sale Day" or a book auction. Funds for acquisitions are not included in our regular budget yet, so we need something special to get started with this important part of improving the RMPL.

While we started to work with youth education activities last fall this has not continued. Those of us on the Board feel that education, both youth and adult, should be an area in which the RMPL is deeply involved. We have a few plans, but any suggestions would be welcome.

All in all, I feel that we have had a good first half year and that, at the present time, the RMPL is headed in the right direction. Things are starting to settle down into a routine now and we are getting things more organized. We urge that you bring your philatelic friends to see the library and to see what we have to offer. It should be easy to convince them that they, too, should be a part of this unique organization by becoming a member and by using the facilities, attending RMPL sponsored activities, and donating philatelic literature for others to use. It is from this uniting and sharing that we all will benefit.

NEW SURPLUS AUCTION CATALOG SALE LIST

We are pleased to report that our RMPL Volunteer in charge of auction catalogs, Ron Mitchell, has prepared a new list of surplus auction catalogs available for a donation. These duplicate catalogs have been arranged by major subjects where possible, as well as by auction house name. This list can be obtained, on request, for the \$.55 for the postage. *Or, request by E-mail and Iona will send it to you at no charge.*

MATERIALS NEEDED FOR AUCTION

First of all we would like to thank George Killian and Jim Davenport for responding to our call for donations for the auction in the previous Scribblings.

The RMPL needs philatelic materials for the Silent Auction to be held in conjunction with ROMPEX on May 16th - 18th. Please search through your accumulations and see if there aren't some collections or items that you would be willing to donate. In the previous auctions that we have had, we have sold material ranging from suitcases and boxes full of covers to individual stamps. Any type of philatelic material is welcome. RMPL Vice President, Jim Kilbane, is in charge of the auction this year and would be most happy to hear from you at 337-9543. We can make arrangements to pick up lots that you want to donate or better yet, you can drop them by the library during our regular hours of operation. The sooner we receive the material, the better it is because we need to get the majority of it organized prior to the show.

It is extremely important that this auction is successful because in the RMPL budget the Silent Auction is expected to account for enough funds to operate the RMPL for 1 month of the year. That is at least \$1300, so we need a lot of material. Please try to donate something.

After we get all of this material, we need to sell it in the auction so don't forget to stop by the RMPL table, look at the material that is available, and make a few bids. About one third of the material will be closed out each day, promptly at 5:00 PM, and the high bid above the minimum takes the lot home. Check at the table each of the three days to see if new material has been added because frequently during the show someone decides to add to the auction. Bid early, bid frequently, bid late, bid high -but above all BID. Every \$ helps us reach our goal.

3rd MONDAYS AT THE RMPL

The Aurora Stamp Club has started holding their regular meetings at the RMPL. The 3rd Monday of each month (December excluded) has been designated as "Trading and Selling Night" for years for the Aurora Stamp Club. They have suggested that the 3rd Monday continue to be a "Trading and Selling" night but that it be opened to all philatelists, not just Aurora Stamp Club members. The RMPL is happy to cooperate with the Aurora Stamp Club in sponsoring this activity. The word has spread because on February 17th there were over 15 collectors present. Activities included trading, selling, APS Stamp Circuits, 5¢ worldwide stamp mixtures, helping to identify varieties, and of course a lot of "bragging and telling of stamp stories". A good time was had by all participants. The library opens at about 7:00 PM so come join in the fun on the 3rd Mondays.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

We are pleased to report that John Broberg has volunteered to take the Thursday 5-8 shift and Sherri Jennings has volunteered to take the Saturday 1-4 shift on alternating weeks. Thanks, John and Sherri!

We still need people to work the following shifts at the library:

Saturday - 10-1 shift

Saturday - 1-4 shift on alternating Saturdays.

We have had one person who has indicated that he would like to work a six hour shift on alternating Mondays. Several of our regular Monday persons have agreed that they could change to another day. Is there anyone out there who would like to cover the alternating Monday six hour shift or maybe persons who would like to work a 10-1 shift or a 1-4 shift on alternating Mondays. That would give us enough flexibility to open the library on another day during the week.

Several persons have indicated an interest in having the library open on Sundays. Are there two people out there who would like to work a 12-4 or 1-4 shift on Sundays?

If you are willing to cover any of these spots on a regular basis please contact Don Beuthel at 755-9328 as soon as possible.

Dan Thomas, a long time RMPL Volunteer and PR Coordinator, has moved to Arizona and we are trying to replace him in the PR position. We would like to thank him for all of his time, his work, and his donations to help to get the RMPL started and wish him good luck in his new residence.

INCLUDED WITH THIS ISSUE -

Many of you will be receiving your new RMPL membership cards with this issue of the Scribblings. We are pleased with the renewal response from our last mailing and thank you sincerely. Several of you will be receiving a Second Notice that your membership has expired and we hope that you will respond to this reminder.

A group of you will be receiving a notice that it is now time for you to renew your membership and we hope that you will respond promptly and generously.

A few of you who are reasonably new to our mailing list will receive Membership Applications in the hope that you feel that what we are doing for philately is important enough to lend your support by becoming members of the RMPL.

Again, if there are any questions about your RMPL Membership status please do not hesitate to call. We would be most happy to check the records and correct any errors.

DONATIONS ON A MONTHLY BASIS

An increasing number of RMPL members have started to donate financially to the library on a monthly basis. This helps to offset those recurring monthly bills such as Public Service, water, phone, and insurance. We would be most pleased to set up such an arrangement for any member for as little as \$10 per month. All that is necessary to make such an arrangement is to call Don Beuthel at 755-9328 or our RMPL Treasurer, Bob Blatherwick, at 377-3808. We hope that you will consider this.

DONATIONS CONTINUE!!!

The RMPL would like to thank the following persons who have made contributions of philatelic literature or material during the last two months:

Brian Holthouse, Bill Rapp, Dan Thomas, Jack Willard, Bill Dunn, Ron Mitchell, Terence Hines, Richard Davis, Ed O'Donoghue, Roger Cichorz, Fred Campbell, Tom Crawford, Don Koontz, Ludwig Svoboda, Norm Camara, Ed Schenck, Bob Brown, Neal Lamb, and Sherman Pompey.

It is this sharing attitude that helps to make the RMPL a success.

NEW RMPL MEMBERS

In the last two months the following persons have become members of the RMPL:

Peter Adgie, Josephine Griffith, Jim Crews, Jim Emery, James Bickel, James Moorman, Joan Johnson, Ken Stone, Brian Holthouse, Richard Davis, Ed O'Donoghue, Allen Hofsetz, George Killian, Brian Kelly, Gary Starkey, Vic Neas, and Jud Porter

Welcome to that unique group of philatelists - the RMPL members.

NEW ADDITIONS TO THE RMPL COLLECTION

Among the titles seen recently on the New Book Shelf were:

Philately and the Computer by Dick Wolf & Alj Mary

1869 Issue on Covers - A Census & Analysis by Jonathan W. Rose & Richard M. Searing

U. S. Postage Meter Stamp Catalog by Werner Simon

Postal Markings by Harry Konwiser
From the Winged Heels of Mercury by Zaven M. Seron

The World of Locals by Jim Czyl
United States Postal Policy by Clyde Kelly
20th Century U. S. Stamped Envelopes by Prescott Thorp

U. S. Cancels 1890-1900 by Sol Salkind

FIRST COME - FIRST SERVED!!

We have a very limited number of Nell's Map of Colorado (29" x 40") dated 1885 in the RMPL. As long as they last, persons who make a donation of \$6.00 to the RMPL can take one home.

We still have a quantity of the Post Route Map of the State of Colorado (22" x 17") dated December 1, 1893 available. A donation of \$5.00 to the RMPL will allow you to be the new owner of one of these.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

This membership report covers the time from August 1, 1996 (Re-opening Day) to February 1, 1997.

Membership as of 8/1/96..... 130

- New 8/1/96 - 8/31/96 11
- New 9/1/96 - 9/30/96 2
- New 10/1/96 - 10/31/96 9
- New 11/1/96 - 11/30/96 6
- New 12/1/96 - 12/31/96 2

Total Membership as of 12/31/96..... 160

- New 1/1/97 - 1/31/97 7
- New 2/1/97 - 2/28/97 7

Total Membership as of 2/28/97..... 174

Membership renewals began with the mailing of the January-February **Scribblings**. Sixty four renewal letters were included for those members whose renewal date was January 31 or February 28. As of February 28, 1997, 45 members have renewed their membership in the RMPL. A follow up reminder letter will be sent to those that have not responded to the first renewal letter.

This issue of **Scribblings** includes renewal letters for those members whose renewal date is March 31 or April 30. We hope you will choose to renew your membership.

<http://www.>

by Iona Macintosh

Good News-Great News

The RMPL is on the WEB. Look for some new features coming soon.

A "GREAT BIG THANK YOU" goes to Larry and Carmen Piekenbrock for their support of the RMPL and their hosting of our home page.

Check out our home page at:

<http://www.collectors-mall.com/philib/RMPL.htm>

Don't Forget to Click on the **Packrat**

Please send your responses to RMPL@aol.com

A special thank you goes to Ken Chotiner for submitting our web address to the Philatelic Museums & Libraries web site. This is a comprehensive listing of world wide philatelic libraries with a brief description of each.

Here's the URL:

<http://dSPACE.dial.pipex.com/town/square/ac752/museum1.htm>

HOT SITE OF THE MONTH

Pacific 97

Pacific 97 has just updated their web site. If you are planning on attending the show or just want information on the show check out the URL listed below.

<http://www.west.net/-stamps1/pacific1html>

And remember - Iona is available 24 hours a day to help with your philatelic research - and, as always - I love E-Mail!

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Donald G. Beuthel
Editor

The Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library is a chartered Colorado Non-profit corporation. Membership subscriptions over that for the annual regular membership, and donations of appropriate philatelic library materials are deductible for U.S. income tax purposes. The RMPL is an IRS designated 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

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