

# 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-mall.com/philib/RMPL.htm>

September-October 1997  
E-Mail - [RMPL@aol.com](mailto:RMPL@aol.com)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING at the RMPL

*"come and enjoy the activities"*

### SEPTEMBER 1997

Mondays: September 8, 15, 22, 29 Open 10-4  
Tuesdays: September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Open 10-4  
Thursdays: September 4, 11, 18, 25 Open 2-8  
Saturdays: September 6, 13, 20, 27 Open 10-4  
Sundays: September 7, 14, 21, 28 Open 1-4  
September 3 - Meeting - 7:30 PM Aurora Stamp Club  
September 4 - Meeting - 7:00 PM RMPL Board  
September 11 - Meeting - 7:30 PM Topical Philatelists In Colorado  
September 13 - Second Saturday at the RMPL - 9:00 AM - Program by John Bloor - "Canadian Pioneer and Semi-Official Airmails"  
September 15 - Meeting - 7:30 PM - Stamp Night Open Trading (and selling) Night - Sponsored by the Aurora Stamp Club  
September 23 - Meeting - 7:30 PM - ROMPEX Committee  
September 27 - Meeting - 2:00 PM China Stamp Society

### OCTOBER 1997

Mondays: October 6, 13, 20, 27 Open 10-4  
Tuesdays: October 7, 14, 21, 28 Open 10-4  
Thursdays: October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Open 2-8  
Saturdays: October 4, 11, 18, 25 Open 10-4  
Sundays: October 5, 12, 19, 26 Open 1-4  
October 1 - Meeting - 7:30 PM Aurora Stamp Club  
October 2 - Meeting - 7:30 PM RMPL Board  
October 4 - Meeting - 10:00 AM Scandinavian Collector's Club  
October 4 - Stamp Collecting Month - 11:00 AM Postal Service Day Program  
October 4 - Meeting - 1:00 PM Rocky Mountain Aerophilatelic Club  
October 9 - Meeting - 7:30 PM Topical Philatelists In Colorado  
October 11 - Second Saturday at the RMPL - 9:00 AM - Program by Steve Schweighofer - "Foreign Express Mail"  
October 11 - Stamp Collecting Month - 10:00 AM - Stamp Identification Help Session  
October 11 - Stamp Collecting Month - 11:00 AM - Identifying the "Banknote Series" and the "Washington-Franklin Series"

October 15 - Meeting - 9:00 AM Heather Gardens Stamp Club  
October 18 - Stamp Collecting Month - 10:00 AM Stamp Club Visitation Day - displays, silent auctions, and door prizes  
October 20 - Meeting - 7:30 PM - Stamp Night Open Trading (and Selling) Night - Sponsored by the Aurora Stamp Club  
October 25 - Stamp Collecting Month - 10:00 AM - KIDS DAY at the RMPL - pre register at 755-9328  
October 25 - Meeting - 2:00 PM China Stamp Society  
October 28 - Meeting - 7:30 PM ROMPEX Committee

### STAMP COLLECTING MONTH

Get ready to mark some special dates on your calendar!

Many of us at the RMPL are busy preparing for top-notch activities planned on each Saturday during October, Stamp Collecting Month. Here's the rundown:

#### Postal Service Day

October 4th, 10 - 11am

A philatelic representative from Denver's main post office will be at the library to answer questions about what and how much stamp collectors are buying these days and anything else about philatelic window sales we care to ask.

A USPS "Envelope Design Specialist" will also be on hand to explain all of the markings recent technology is putting on our letters. Modern postal history is in our mailboxes every day, and this is a great opportunity to learn the newest ways the post office is processing our mail.

One evening during the month, a tour of the general mail facility will be arranged. The tour will be geared toward collectors and we'll be able to see all the fancy computer-driven machinery in action.

#### Stamp Collector's Day

October 11th, 9 - 10 am

As part of our regular Second Saturday programs, Steve Schweighofer will give a talk with plenty of examples of "Foreign Express Mail." Second Saturday programs deserve your support. They are always excellent!

October 11th, 10am - Noon

A team of three experts will be ready to properly identify US and worldwide stamps.

Few among us are absolutely certain we have all the US Bank Note Issues in the right places in our albums. Were they printed by National, American or Continental? Are they re-issues? Do they have grills or secret marks?

One or more of our experts will also know a thing or two about the Washington-Franklins or any other tricky US stamps.

And what about those worldwide stamps you've been putting aside for years because you can't figure out whether they're revenues from India or postal tax stamps from Yugoslavia?

Bill Dunn, Joe Weinman and Gregory Frantz will have the answers. All they need is for you to bring the stamps by.

### **Stamp Club Visitation Day**

October 18th, 10 - 4pm

Here's a day set aside to say hello to folks from area stamp clubs. Everyone is invited to drop by for free coffee, pop and donuts, whether an RMPL member or not.

We're very proud of our library and want to show it off. There will be displays, door prizes and supprizes!

### **Kids Day at the RMPL**

October 25th, 10am - Noon

A full fledged mini-course in stamp collecting, along with hands-on demonstrations will be given for youngsters who attend. In addition, all kinds of free philatelic "stuff" will be given to each child.

Pre-registration is required so we'll know how many to plan for. Call Don Beuthel at 755-9328 to sign up.

Many hours of planning are going into activities planned for the four Saturdays of Stamp Collecting Month. We're sure you'll enjoy taking part and we look forward to seeing you!

### **ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE**

The RMPL celebrated the anniversary of our first year of operation in our new building as well as the Grand Opening of the library in 1994 with an open house on August 3rd. We were most pleased that over 35 persons attended and enjoyed an afternoon of browsing and socializing as well as enjoying a selection of refreshments.

We were most pleased that Joe and Carol Crosby from Oklahoma City were able to attend the Open House on their way back home from a trip to Detroit. (Now that's an Oklahoma direct route if I ever saw one.) Joe helped the RMPL so much when we moved into the new building by convincing his company, Occidental Petroleum, to donate a large amount of furniture and shelving to the library when they closed their Oklahoma City office. It appeared that Joe was impressed with what has been accomplished and he saw that the donated marterial was being used.

Thanks should go to Thelma Willard, Sue Dunn and our RMPL Librarian, Ellengail Beuthel for providing the refreshments, getting things organized, and cleaned up.

We hope to make this an annual event and if you weren't in attendance this year, maybe you will be able to be with us next year.

### **RMPL TRIVIA QUESTION**

How many people signed the registration book during our first complete year of operation of the RMPL?

We try to ask each person who comes in the door of the RMPL to sign the book; but, we know that there are some that we missed.

The answer to the question will be at the end of this issue of Scribblings. Some of us were quite shocked at the size of this number and our goal for the next year is to double the number of RMPL visitors.

We know that some of our members, who faithfully pay RMPL dues, have not been out to see what their dues are doing. We urge that you make the effort to visit and bring along a philatelic friend - and don't forget to sign the Registration Book!!!

### **RMPL SECOND SATURDAY**

Back in the olden days of the RMPL, when we were in the store fronts on Peoria, we started a Thursday night series of programs called the ABC's of Philately. These were fun, but very poorly attended. On moving to the new building we decided to have a monthly series of programs on the second Saturday of the month. We scheduled these to start at 9:00 AM, hopefully before most of the other weekend activities commence.

Attendance has been better than before, but not as good as we had really hoped. A wide range of programs have been given so far ranging from The U. S. Liberty Series to Streetcar Mail Routes and Cancels to Morocco Local Posts.

The September 13th Second Saturday at the RMPL program is to be given by John Bloor and the title of the presentation is "Canadian Pioneer and Semi-Official Air Mails". John writes a column for Global Stamp News on air mail subjects and is quite knowledgeable on the subject so this promises to be a most informative presentation.

As a part of our celebration of October is Stamp Collecting Month the October 11th Second Saturday at the RMPL program will be given by Steve Schweighofer on the subject of "Foreign Express Mail". Steve works for the USPS and has specialized in a study of Express Mail for many years. We hope that you will try to make it to one of these Saturday sessions and bring an interested philatelic friend.

We are looking for people to volunteer to do a Second Saturday presentation for future

months. If you would like to volunteer, or if you would like to suggest someone whom you think has an interesting collecting specialty who might do a presentation, please contact Don Beuthel at 755-9328.

## DONATIONS CONTINUE

Donations of philatelic material continue to arrive at the library and we want to thank all of the generous people who have kept the RMPL in mind when disposing of philatelic literature and materials. Frequently material just seemed to appear and we were not able to thank the donors properly. New procedures have been started so that all material is "logged in" and a letter is being sent to acknowledge the receipt of the material and thanking the donors for their generosity.

Recent donors include: Larry Piekenbrock, Robley Rhine, Terry Hines, Joe Weinman, Silvin Landman, Bill Dunn, Dalene Thomas, Jack Dear, Marcella Engelson, Stuart Silverburg, Logan Blackwell, Arthur Nitzberg, Bill Rapp, Kenneth Trettin, Mrs. Jerry Wiley, P. E. Robinson, Mary E. Chandler, Barbara Anderson, Ward Crowley, John Bloor, H. Bently Glass, Western Philatelic Library, Mrs. Walter B. Oliver, Doug Crowe, Lewis Bussey, Bob Schrenk, Hal Grossman, Frank Bocovich, Michael J. Barie, and Michael J. Maselli.

The RMPL accepts all types of philatelic literature and material. If we can't use it, we will try to pass it on to someone who can, give it to children who are getting started in the hobby, or sell it to help to keep the library operating. Remember that the RMPL has a public charity, 501 [c](3), status with the IRS so that the fair market value of donated items is deductible if you itemize on your tax return.

## RMPL VOLUNTEERS

First of all, we would like to thank all of the RMPL Volunteers who work to keep the library open 5 days per week. Their dedication and dependability are commendable. Remember that the RMPL is an "All Volunteer" operation, so a lot of people put in a lot of time contributing to the success of the library. No one gets paid. This is what makes our operation so unique. Also, we would like to welcome Peter Adgie to the crew. We reluctantly say goodbye to our long time volunteer, Linda Warman-Holt who is moving to Eastport, Maine. Thanks for all of the hours you have spent at the RMPL, Linda, and good luck.

We do need some new volunteers to work on a regular basis for the following shifts: Saturdays 10-1 and 1-4, Sundays 1-4, and after January 1st Mondays 1-4. As you can see the shifts are 3 hours long and whenever possible we will have two Volunteers working at the same time. We will train you in the RMPL Procedures.

If you can fill one, or more, of these shifts on a regularly scheduled basis, even on an

alternating week basis, please call Don Beuthel at 755-9328.

## INCLUDED WITH THIS ISSUE

Some of you will be receiving your new RMPL Membership Card with this issue. Others of you will be receiving a notice that your membership will expire in the next two months. Some of you received that renewal notice with the last issue but have not responded, so you will be receiving a reminder and we urge that you act on this right away by sending us a check. A few of you will be receiving a "last reminder notice" because you have not responded to the previous two notices. Please take the time to either send us a check thereby renewing your membership, or contact us so that we can remove your name from the mailing list thus saving postage and printing costs.

What really bothers some of us who are very closely tied to the operation of the library is that some of our earlier members who seem to be dropping their membership have never been to the library in our new location to see what is being done with your dues. Before you decide not to renew, please take the time to visit. If there has been a problem in the past, or you are unhappy about something, please let one of the officers know and maybe we can come up with a satisfactory solution.

Some of you are receiving a copy of the Scribblings for the first time and we have included a membership application for your convenience. We would love to have you visit the library and let us show you what we have been able to accomplish so far and we hope that you will take this opportunity to join the RMPL.

In case you couldn't tell, those of us who work in the RMPL are quite proud of our little library and really want to share it with the philatelists in the Rocky Mountain Area. We have been saying that we want it to be the Philatelic Center of the Rocky Mountain Region and it is rapidly reaching that goal.

## RMPL WISH LIST

Recently one of our members said that he hadn't seen a "wish list" for quite some time and suggested that if we make our wishes known, they might be fulfilled. At the present time the following would be included on a spur-of-the-moment list of items that we can't afford to buy but would love to have:

A computer with a built-in CD-Rom - philatelic material is starting to be produced on the CD's and with a computer that has that large a capability the "page drawing programs" that we have available to the library could be used.

A laser printer or a good quality ink-jet printer.

A good quality cassette tape recorder for taping scripts for the slide programs that we have.

Fax machine

## Parking lot repaving

### Modem

I'm sure that we could think of other things, but as a quick response these are the items that come to mind. If you can donate any of these items, please call the library at 759-9921 during our business hours or Don Beuthel at 755-9328 at any time.

## **ANSWER TO THE RMPL TRIVIA QUESTION**

There have been 1057 people who have signed the Registration Book from August 3, 1996 to August 2, 1997.

## **NEW AUCTION CATALOGS**

by Ron Mitchell

There are three recent significant changes in the auction catalog section of the RMPL.

### **POSTAL HISTORY SALES**

If you have a specialty in a foreign country there is an excellent chance you can find information of interest in a nice run of postal history sales that is new to the library stacks.

Bill Rapp of Crete, Nebraska, donated 94 catalogs from Rigby Postal History Auctions of Bournemouth, England. They range in date from September 1966 to August 1984 and each sale has between 1500 and 3000 lots. Many of the catalogs have cross reference indexes to make it easy to find Gough Island, for instance, or Red Cross, or Saar or you name it.

If you're looking for postal history information on specialties within specialties from all corners of the world, Rigby's is a good place to look.

### **SHREVES PRICES REALIZED**

We now have catalogs and prices realized for 16 of the 18 Shreves Philatelic Galleries sales. Charles and Tracy Shreves started their own company in late 1994. The presentation in each catalog is simply excellent, including the quality of stamps offered, the descriptions of lots, and the illustrations. Color reproduction is exquisite.

We have prices realized for the two catalogs we're missing. Is there a library member with Shreves sales for March 17-18, 1995 and/or January 20, 1996 they would be willing to donate? Those additions would give us a complete set.

### **CHRISTIE'S INDEX**

We now have 118 Christie's auction catalogs and they are indexed by subject and country. Detail of the index is limited to catalogs with significant sections devoted to specific subjects or countries. Sales titled "Worldwide," for instance, are not included in the index. Still, there are nearly 150 different headings from Air Mail to Zululand.

Eventually, the plan is to have such an index for all the major auction companies in the RMPL collection.

We are able to raise a few dollars for RMPL's operating budget through sales of books, periodicals and auction catalogs. Lists of duplicates for sale are available for 52¢ in postage.

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**Donald G. Beuthel**  
Editor

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