

Scribblings



...from the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library

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Phone - 303 - 759-9921

2038 So. Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224
www.collectors-mall.com/philib/RMPL.htm

January - February, 2000
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THE STATE OF THE RMPL

by Donald G. Beuthel, RMPL President

As one reaches certain points in time, it seems natural to spend a little time looking back at where you have been, and looking forward to where you might be going. Entering the 2000's might be one of those special times to do this mental exercise.



The RMPL Building

We have been located in our present building for over 3 years - and a busy three years it has been. Our holdings of books, periodicals, and auction catalogs have grown dramatically. Special thanks should go to philatelists from all over the world - those who have made a commitment to sharing their philatelic literature with others by donating it to the RMPL. One cannot help be impressed with the quantity and quality of these donations. It would be difficult to come up with a dollar and cents figure that would represent what it would have cost to put together a collection such as we have. When we started this venture, never in our wildest dreams did we think it would grow as it has. Thanks again to all who have made those donations.

Early on those of us who started the RMPL wondered how we would be able to handle the cost of keeping the library operating. It was a "crap shoot" at best but nothing ventured, nothing gained. A great many people have made donations in the form of money over the life of the RMPL - money that we had hoped to receive but had no assurance that it would appear. Many of these monetary donations were for specific purposes but often it would be in the form of moving to another higher level on the membership scale. These donations were large and they were small, but no matter what the size was, they were, and continue to be greatly appreciated. We thank each and every person who has invested in the future of the RMPL. We continue to pay the bills each month and this is good.

Many said it couldn't be done. It would never work. It was crazy to attempt to start such a venture. To try to run a library such as this on an all volunteer basis --- Well, it is working and we are so proud of our Volunteers. They are dependable and hard working. No task is too big or too difficult. It just gets done. With our financial status, we could never be able to afford to pay the Volunteers for the hours they devote. We greatly appreciate each and every one of them. Because of them, the RMPL is able to be open 6 days a week, six hours a day -- and they said it couldn't be done. It is being done.

Speaking for the officers and board members of the RMPL, we can't thank our donors from all over the world enough - the many donors of material, cash, and time. We wish we could shake your hand and thank each of you in person. Hopefully this little note will help to indicate to you how deep our appreciation is.

Now a brief look at the future -- As new books come in, they are being cataloged using the computer program, "In-Magic" and reference searches are available by computer. There is still quite a backlog of material to be catalogued in this manner, and progress is slow but sure. When, and if, we get through the backlog, we will take on the task of going back and re-working the material that is currently in the card files of our "old fashioned" card catalog. Until that can be done we will just have to work with the two systems.

Presently we are working to dispose of some of our duplicate material through several methods. We

will continue to work with philatelic youth activities and are processing the large quantities of donated stamps for children that we have at the RMPL. We will continue to sponsor the Adult Beginning Stamp Collecting classes that we have started. We will continue to host the meetings of local stamp organizations at the RMPL. We will continue to sponsor the Second Saturday at the RMPL educational programs. We will continue the publication of this newsletter - the RMPL Scribblings - and will continue to work to improve its quality. A first step in this direction is the new format (with a little color) for the new millennium with this issue. We will be working hard to help with the passage of a bill through the Colorado Legislature which will give libraries that have a 501 (c) (3) status with the IRS and are open to the public (THAT IS US), exemption from property taxes. What a help that will be. We will continue to try to build our membership numbers. We hope to work on some grant proposals that will allow us to further expand our collection.

There is still much work to be done. I don't think we will ever become stagnant. We still need your help in all ways - donation of materials, money, and time. With that continued help, the future of the RMPL looks most promising.

And they said it couldn't be done!!!

News From the RMPL...

RMPL ELECTION

RMPL members will receive a ballot with this Scribblings. Voting may be done by mailing the completed ballot to the RMPL at 2038 So. Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224 or placing the ballot in the appropriate box at the library. While we don't recommend that you use to old time methods of voting - vote early and vote often - we do urge that you exercise your privilege to vote once.

RMPL CLOSINGS

As is customary the RMPL closes on national holidays. We will be closed on Saturday, January 1st for New Years Day; Monday, January 17th for Martin Luther King Day; and on Monday, February 21st for Presidents' Day.

SECOND SATURDAY AT THE RMPL

Attendance at these Second Saturday programs has been steadily increasing. It seems the word is getting out that these programs can be most enjoyable and informative. We are pleased that the RMPL is becoming the place for philatelists in the metropolitan to be, early on the Second Saturday of each month.

On January 8th the program will be presented by Greg Frantz on the subject of "U. S. Locals".

On February 12th the program will be given by Robley Rhine and the subject will be "U. S. Offices in China 1872-1941".

Both of these sound most interesting so be at the RMPL at 9:00 AM on both of these Saturdays - and bring a philatelic friend. As usual the coffee pot will be activated and the "Donut Fairy" may have made a visit.

A NEW LOOK FOR "SCRIBBLINGS"

Since the May, 1999 issue we have been experimenting with a number of new ideas that would continue to bring the news and activities of the RMPL, and at the same time, bring a philatelic article or story that would be of interest to the general membership. We have tried a variety of papers, a folded format rather than the normal "stapled in the corner" issues, and computer translation programs - some of which worked and some that did not. To those that found errors, we apologize and thanks for bearing with us during this time of transition. This issue and its format is the one that the board has chosen. We hope that you like it.

We also owe a big "Thank You" to Tim Bartshe, Don Beuthel, Bill Dunn, Peter Laux, and Sergio Lugo for providing the lead articles. We are in need of articles for four issues beginning with the May - June issue. Contact Don Beuthel if you would be willing to provide a favorite story from your collection.

R F D Really Fantastic Discovery

by Bob Brown, RMPL Volunteer

In a previous issue of Scribblings, I wrote about the indexing of the Railroad maps that we have on Microfilm. That project is now complete, and the index for those maps resides in the Map Room. The next project is to complete the indexing of the Miscellaneous Maps on Microfilm. These rolls contain various maps from the Department of Highways. They range from early highway maps to an early (1913) Geologic Map of Colorado and early (1918) Road District Maps.

The cream of the crop, so far, is the discovery of a series of maps prepared by the Post Office Department. POSTAL HISTORIANS,

Vi Weinman gave us all a boost by telling how much the library meant to her husband, Joe. Her cheerful spirit is an inspiration!

One more thing. After several years of quiet dedication to the library, and frequent tactful requests to get a name tag, Bill Brockman finally was given one. Congratulations, Bill!

The party put us all in the holiday mood, and we thank the Beuthels for being the hosts.

RMPL KID'S STAMP CLUB

Felice Vainer reports that she has had several responses to the brief note in the last Scribblings where we asked if there was any interest in forming a children's stamp club. Based upon these responses, a meeting for the group has been scheduled for January 15th at 1:00 PM and for February 19th at 1:00 PM. If you know of children who might be interested in participating in such a group, please contact Felice Vainer at 303-761-7657.

...What's Happening at the RMPL...

"Come and enjoy the activities"

JANUARY 2000

Mondays: January 3, 10, 24, 31 Open 10-4
Tuesdays: January 4, 11, 18, 25 Open 10-4
Wednesdays: January 5, 12, 19, 26 Open 10-4
Thursdays: January 6, 13, 20, 27 Open 2-8
Fridays: January 7, 14, 21, 28 Open 10-4
Saturdays: January 8, 15, 22, 29 Open 10-4
January 1 - RMPL Closed - New Years Day
January 5 - Aurora Stamp Club 6:30 Trading
7:30 Meeting and Program
January 6 - Meeting - 7:00 PM - RMPL Board of Directors
January 8 - Second Saturday at the RMPL
9:00 AM - Program by Greg Frantz
"U. S. Locals"
January 8 - Meeting - 10:00 AM
Scandinavian Collector's Club
January 8 - Meeting - 2:00 PM
Universal Ship Cancellation Society
USS Colorado Chapter
January 12 - Meeting - 7:00 PM
Denver Germany Stamp Club
January 13 - Meeting - 7:30 PM
Topical Philatelists In Colorado
January 15 - Meeting - 1:00 PM
RMPL Kid's Stamp Club
January 17 - RMPL CLOSED - MLK Day
January 22 - Meeting - 2:00 PM
China Stamp Society
January 25 - Meeting - 7:30 PM
ROMPEX Committee

FEBRUARY 2000

Mondays: February 7, 14, 28 Open 10-4
Tuesdays: February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Open 10-4
Wednesdays: February 2, 9, 16, 23 Open 10-4
Thursdays: February 3, 10, 17, 24 Open 2-8
Fridays: February 4, 11, 18, 25 Open 10-4
Saturdays: February 5, 12, 19, 26 Open 10-4
February 2 - Aurora Stamp Club 6:30 Trading
7:30 Meeting and Program
February 5 - Meeting - 10:00 AM
Scandinavian Collector's Club
February 9 - Meeting - 7:00 PM
Denver Germany Stamp Club
February 10 - Meeting - 7:30 PM
Topical Philatelists In Colorado
February 12 - Second Saturday at the RMPL -
9:00 AM - Program by Robley Rhine
"U. S. Offices in China 1872-1941"
February 12 - Meeting - 11:00 AM
Rocky Mountain Aero Philatelists
February 12 - Meeting - 2:00 PM
Universal Ship Cancellation Society
USS Colorado Chapter
February 19 - Meeting - 1:00 PM
RMPL Kid's Stamp Club
February 21 - RMPL CLOSED - Presidents' Day
February 22 - Meeting - 7:30 PM
ROMPEX Committee
February 22 - Meeting - 2:00 PM
China Stamp Society

Scribblings is published bi-monthly by the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, 2038 So. Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224.

Donald G. Beuthel, Editor

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

RMPL Board of Directors

President: Donald G. Beuthel Vice-President: Jim Kilbane Secretary: William S. Dunn Treasurer: Robert Blatherwick
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