

Scribblings

...from the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library



Ellengail Beuthel, Librarian...

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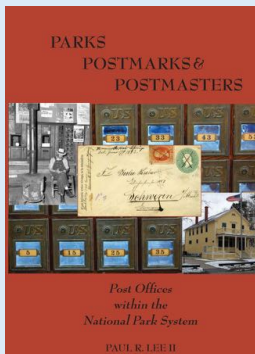
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A tie hack hewing a railroad tie with his broad axe in the Medicine Bow National Forest (Source: U.S. Forest Service)

With Broadaxes Swinging: A Tale of the Tie Hacks

By Paul Albright

For this collector, it is less about the stamp and more about the story behind the stamp. The same holds true for me with covers – where they have traveled, what difficulties they encountered, what messages they communicated. In other words, what is the “story” that an intriguing cover can convey?

The basis for this article is an unremarkable cover mailed from Sweden three days after Christmas in 1935 and addressed to E. A. Eklund at Camp 2 in Holmes, Wyoming (Fig.1). This was one of three Sweden covers addressed to Eklund that I found in the reasonably priced sales boxes at the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library (RMPL). What caught my eye was not the Swedish franking but rather the “Camp 2” in the address. My initial thought was that “Camp 2” might have been one of the

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Scribblings

Newsletter of the
Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library

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A basic membership with the RMPL is \$25 per year, and includes checkout privileges and *Scribblings*. Call for more information.

Knowledge is better when shared. Consider writing an article for *Scribblings* about your favorite philatelic topic.

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The President's Message

2016 has been a pretty good year for the RMPL. It started with paying off the mortgage 31 years early! Under the normal repayment schedule, the mortgage wouldn't have been paid until 2048. Many factors contributed to this. One of the most important is that we are having good success raising money through our auctions and sales. David Weisberg and Bill Crabbs are two of the key people responsible for making these efforts successful. Our thanks to them for their time and expertise.



In addition to our financial success during the year, the RMPL completed a number of projects to improve our collections, our facilities, and our operations. We produced several new videos to enhance philatelic education and put the RMPL name forth for added recognition. Joe Lanotte and Sergio Lugo and those others who assisted in the video productions deserve our thanks for these efforts.

We participated in NY2016 which gained us added recognition by the worldwide philatelic community and even some new members. The last minute efforts of John Bloor (following the untimely death of Ron Mitchell) brought-off our representation at the show without a hitch. Thank you John for a job well done!

Steve Schweighofer also deserves our thanks and recognition for his tireless efforts to relocate and rearrange periodicals. In addition, he completely re-shelved our books to provide more open shelf space for future growth.

On the operations side, special appreciation goes to Chuck Baker who has spent a lot of effort and countless hours upgrading our computer systems. We can thank Tim Heins for picking up the treasurer job and Jeff Modesitt for becoming *Scribblings* editor.

Finally, thanks go to ALL the volunteers who keep this place going on a daily basis. This includes RMPL Board members, Librarian Ellengail, stamp soakers and sorters, and front desk workers.

As a closing note, despite the loss of several members, volunteers, and officers, we were able to maintain our level of membership.

John Sinski,
RMPL President

Scribblings Needs Articles

**Please consider sharing your
expertise and experience with the
membership! Articles should be
sent to Jeff Modesitt at:
jeffmcolorado@gmail.com
(phone 720-624-9024)**



Fig. 1. Cover addressed to Camp 2 at Holmes, Wyoming, mailed December 28, 1935, from Sweden. It was franked with a 15-öre King Gustaf V and a two 5-öre standing lion stamps modeled after a 1700 sculpture at the royal palace in Stockholm.

(Continued from page 1)

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camps that I knew had operated in Wyoming before World War II.

The covers spurred my research to locate Holmes, Wyoming, and then to determine if there had been a CCC

camp there. With the assistance of reference books in RMPL's Western History and Railroad Collection, I quickly located Holmes in Albany County in southern Wyoming's Medicine Bow Mountains west of Laramie. While the federal CCC works program was established in 1933 under Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration to help overcome the nation's economic depression, the nearest CCC camp was about 10 miles away at Centennial, Wyoming (Fig. 2). In addition, many of Wyoming's CCC camps were seasonal but this cover was franked on December 28, 1935. What, then, was this "Camp 2" at Holmes?

First, I noted that the other two covers – both mailed in 1939 (Fig. 3) apparently by family members in the village of Vallsta in central Sweden – were addressed to Eklund at Holmes but lacked a camp number designation. I wondered what had kept this Swedish immigrant in the forests of southern Wyoming for several years during the Great Depression.

Subsequent research showed that there had been copper, gold, and silver mining in the Medicine Bows, but that had been supplanted by a robust timber industry devoted



Fig. 3. The remaining two covers mailed to Eklund in 1939, each franked with two, 15-öre stamps that commemorated King Gustaf's 80th birthday in 1938. One cover, canceled on February 24, 1939, had "15 Marc(h) 39" penciled on the back. Eklund may have written this as the arrival date – some 19 days after the letter was mailed in Vallsta, Sweden.

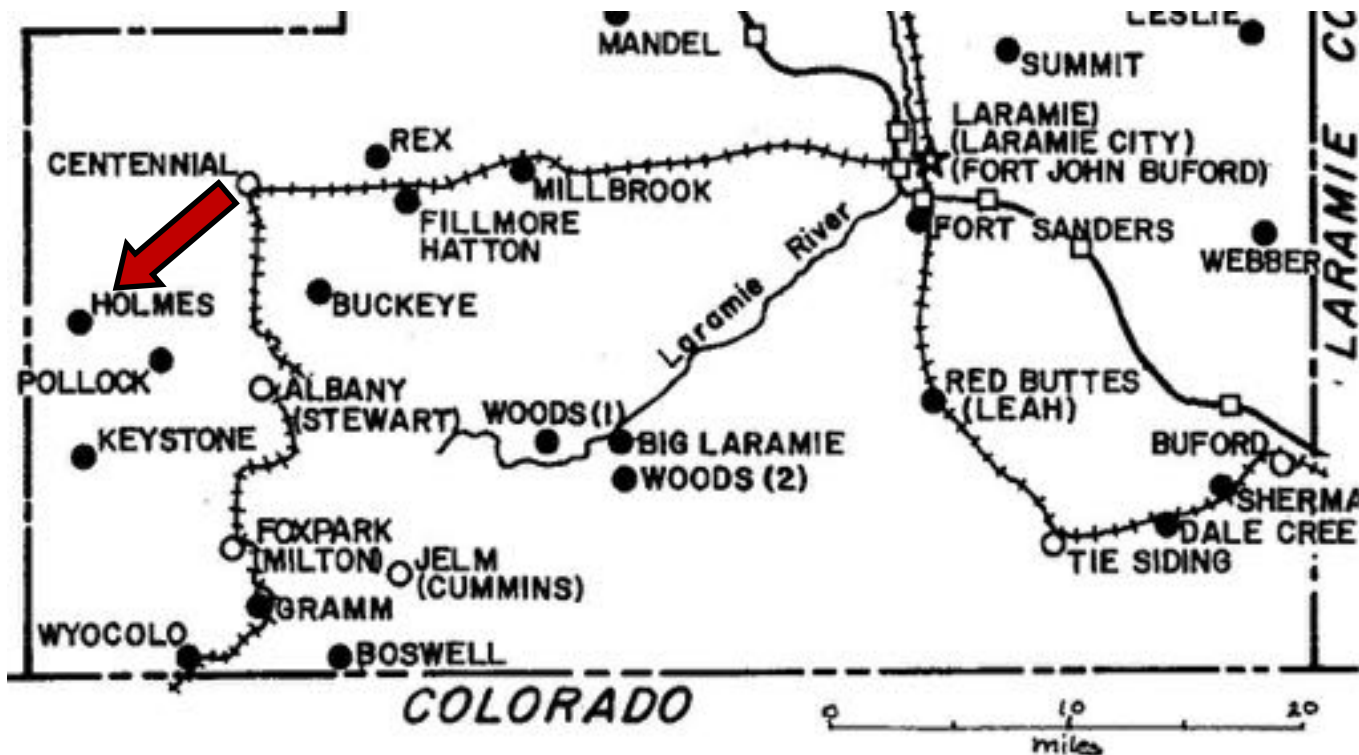


Fig. 2. The Holmes timber camp was located about 10 miles southwest of Centennial in Wyoming's Medicine Bow Mountains.

to producing railroad ties for the thousands of miles of the Union Pacific, the Chicago and Northwestern, and other railways threaded across the nation. The tall lodgepole pine trees in Wyoming were ideal timber for hewing as railroad ties and later as telephone poles. Using books available at RMPL, I learned that the Holmes post office operated from 1893 to 1896 during its mining heyday, was reopened in 1901 as the timber industry boomed, and did not close until 1950. (The Holmes post office operated in summers only from 1947-1950.)

Hardy Scandinavians Excel

Scandinavian immigrants – particularly Swedes – were recruited in large numbers as “tie hacks” to harvest the trees, swing their “broadaxes” to shape 20-50 ties in a day’s work. The ties were then transported out of the area by several means (Fig. 4): sleds and river floats were two of the most common and rail carriage when available.

These “tie hacks,” as they were called, were sturdy men housed in remote mountain camps such as Holmes, enduring winter snow and cold, summer heat, and dangerous working conditions. In some ways, the Holmes camp, operated by the Wyoming Timber Company, was an innovation. It had a sawmill and a dozen buildings, including a commissary, cookhouse, bunkhouse for the bachelors, two-room cabins for the married men, and several barns, all equipped with electric lights and with kerosene lanterns and gasoline lamps banished as fire hazards. It was not unusual for these men to lead a boisterous and sometimes drunken lifestyle when they were able to reach “civilization” for a respite.

E. A. Eklund

I concluded from my reading that E. A. Eklund was one of those robust immigrant “tie hacks” who labored for years in the Medicine Bow Mountains to make millions of railroad ties that expanded the nation’s rail transportation system. In fact, there were so many Swedes in the area that another camp was named “Sweden” because they predominated. In reading the history of the area I saw amusing references to many of the characters of these colorful times: “Soapy Smith, Boxcar Jim, Drunken Andy, Mulligan Pete, China Tooth Sam Thompson, Syrup Strand, Crazy Charlie, Knuckles Eklund, Vic Vicksten. It was with



Fig. 4. Often the cutting was done in the winter because it was easier to strip off bark and drag ties over the snow. Tie hacks were paid 12 cents per tie in 1913, which grew to 30 cents in the 1930s. By World War II tie hacks earned almost 50 cents per tie. An efficient tie hack cutting 50 ties could earn \$25 a day. (Source: U.S. Forest Service)

broadaxes swinging and two-man cross-cut saws snorting, that these men brought the lumber out at a profit.”

Although the spelling is not the same, I like to think that tie hack E. A. Eklund of Holmes, Wyoming, was the muscular “Knuckles Eklund” who was among those referred to in the preceding roster of flamboyant Wyoming tie hacks.

Conclusion

By studying a few inexpensive covers and using some of the extensive reference materials available at RMPL, we are able to attain a brief look at a colorful period in our region’s and our nation’s industrial development. This can only broaden

and deepen our shared philatelic experiences beyond simply collecting stamps, cancels, or covers and mounting them in albums. It is the human story that can reverberate.

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WHY DOES THE RMPL KEEP SO MANY OLD CATALOGS???

By John Bloor

The RMPL – and probably most philatelic libraries – have many old stamp catalogs on their shelves. They take up a lot of space. This can be a problem, particularly in smaller libraries. Depending on available space, older volumes may be put into storage or discarded. But do we really need them all? Until recently, I thought not.

I began collecting French stamps in the mid-1970s and bought a Scott France specialty album. Over the years I've pretty much filled it and, recently, began working on the section for French Overseas Offices in China, Egypt, and elsewhere. This has gone well, but I noticed that in the Offices in China section of the album, in the postage dues, there were fifteen spaces with major catalog numbers that don't appear in the 2014 Scott Classic catalog.

To understand what had happened, I began looking back through old Scott catalogs at the RMPL to find out when the change had occurred. I began with volumes from the 1960s, before my album had been published. The missing numbers were there. Next were 1980s catalogs. The numbers were missing, leaving gaps. To narrow down the date of the change, I looked at catalogs from intermediate years. I found that the missing numbers were all present in the 1976 catalog but not in the 1977 edition.

These are all stamps overprinted with the text "A Percevoir" (to collect) in either carmine or purple. Looking more closely at the listings, all of the missing numbers are for stamps with a purple overprint. In going from the 1976 to the 1977 catalog, the editors made all of the missing major numbers into minor listings under the stamps with carmine overprints. For example, what had been J31 in the 1976 catalog was changed to J28a in the 1977 catalog and J17 became J14a. Apparently my album had been printed before 1977 so it had the "old" numbers in it. The mystery was solved!

Figures 1 and 2 show the relevant listings from the 1976 and 1977 catalogs, respectively. There were a few other number changes as well (e.g. J32A was changed to J30). In addition, the overprint color was now indicat-

ed as (C) for carmine or (P) for purple. This all makes the numbering a little confusing.

Do I still think that we keep too many old catalogs? What I described is an unusual situation but my answer is a qualified "no". Without the catalogs in the RMPL I'd have had to go to another library such as the APRL, or to the catalog publishers, to solve this problem. However, putting old catalogs into accessible storage to make room in the main library for other books is certainly acceptable if space is a problem. Whatever you do, though, don't throw them out! If a book is within the purview of philately, we should always make every effort to keep and preserve it. You never know when someone will need it. That's what philatelic libraries are for.

Figure 1 shows a page from the 1976 Scott France catalog. It lists postage dues J1 through J40. The listings are organized into several sections: 'Stamps of 1902-03', 'Handstamped in Black', 'Types of 1902-03', 'Postage Due Stamps of France', and 'Canton' stamps. The 'Canton' section includes stamps from 1892-1900 and 1901, with some overprinted in red. The listings include descriptions of the stamps (e.g., '5c on 5c orange', '10c on 10c green') and their values. A large 'A PERCEVOIR' stamp is visible in the background.

Figure 1: 1976 catalog, listing of postage dues J1-J40

Figure 2 shows a page from the 1977 Scott France catalog. It lists postage dues J1 through J40. The listings are organized into several sections: 'Stamps of 1902-03', 'Handstamped in Black', 'Types of 1902-03', 'Postage Due Stamps of France', and 'Canton' stamps. The 'Canton' section includes stamps from 1892-1900 and 1901, with some overprinted in red. The listings include descriptions of the stamps (e.g., '5c on 5c orange', '10c on 10c green') and their values. A large 'A PERCEVOIR' stamp is visible in the background.

Figure 2: 1977 catalog, listing of postage dues J1-J40

RMPL at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum

By Paul Lee



A little over a year ago my youngest son Mark asked me if I had heard about a new National Park Service postal history exhibit being developed by the Smithsonian National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C. My son learned this from his best friend from high school who now works as the staff archaeologist at Petrified Forest National Park. Some people from the National Postal Museum had shown up at the park while gathering information for this exhibit and my son's friend had given them a tour.

Several months later, I visited the museum's web site and discovered that they were indeed planning an exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. The exhibit was scheduled to open on June 9, 2016. I contacted the museum to offer any assistance, and to see if they knew about my book *Parks, Postmarks and Postmasters: Post Offices within the National Park Service*, published by the RMPL (Fig.1).

I gladly accepted the invitation to be the 2016 speaker, especially after I was told that all of my expenses would be covered by the museum. However, the real surprise and deal clincher was when the museum contacted me with an offer to purchase 40 hardbound copies of my book! To avoid any confusion here, I should state that the publication of "my" book was fully funded by the RMPL and that all proceeds from book sales go directly to the library.

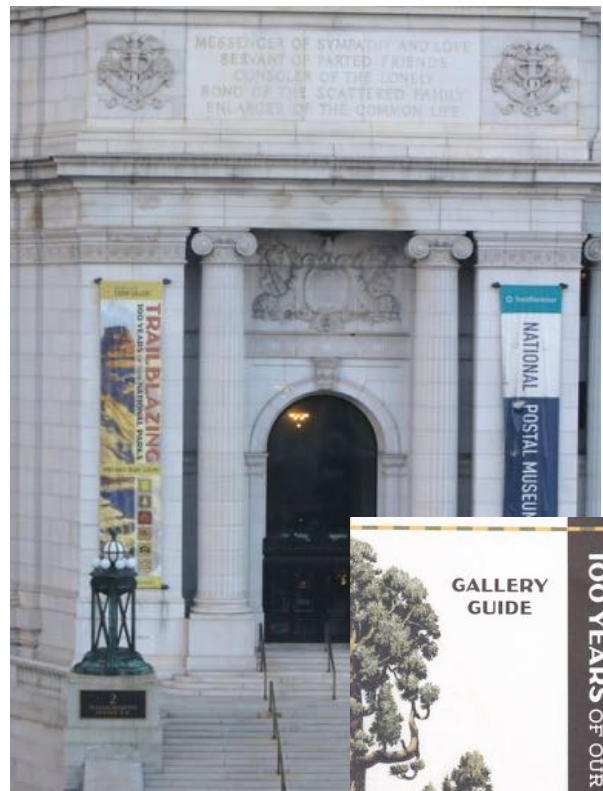
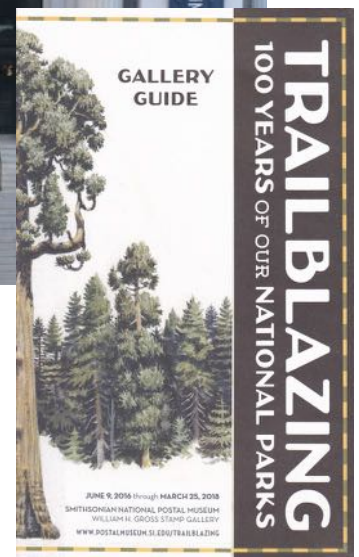


Fig. 2. The entrance to the Smithsonian with the huge "Trail Blazing" banner promoting the Smithsonian exhibit: 100 Years of National Parks. The Gallery Guide is shown to the right.



So, this became an opportunity to not only promote the book and the RMPL, but it also allowed me, as a National Park Service retiree, to play a small part in observing the 100th anniversary of the agency. The only down side that I foresaw was being in Washington, D.C. in August where 3H days (hazy, hot, and humid) are the norm. Although this turned out to be the case, it did not in the least take away from my enjoyment of the total experience.

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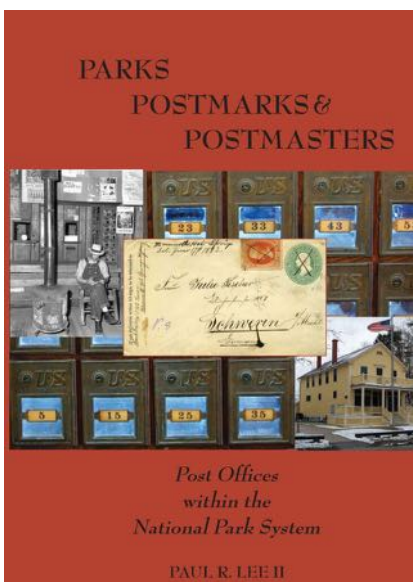


Fig. 1. "Parks, Postmarks and Postmasters: Post Offices within the National Park Service" was a primary reference for developing the Smithsonian's National Park exhibit.

I was directed to Chief Curator, Daniel Piazza who was in charge of developing the exhibit. Daniel was quite familiar with my book, and said that it was one of their primary references. By this time, the exhibit development was pretty far along, but Daniel did ask me if I would be interested in presenting a special talk/lecture at the museum.

The lecture was to be given on August 18, 2016 as the 13th presentation of the Maynard Sundman Lecture Series. Maynard Sundman was a well-known stamp dealer who founded the former Littleton Stamp

Company. In the 1950s, the business expanded to include coins. Today, Maynard's son David serves as president of the Littleton Coin Company in New Hampshire and his son Donald is president of the Mystic Stamp Company in Camden, NY.

In memory of their father, both David and Donald Sundman provided donations to establish the Maynard Sundman Lecture Series at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum in 2002.

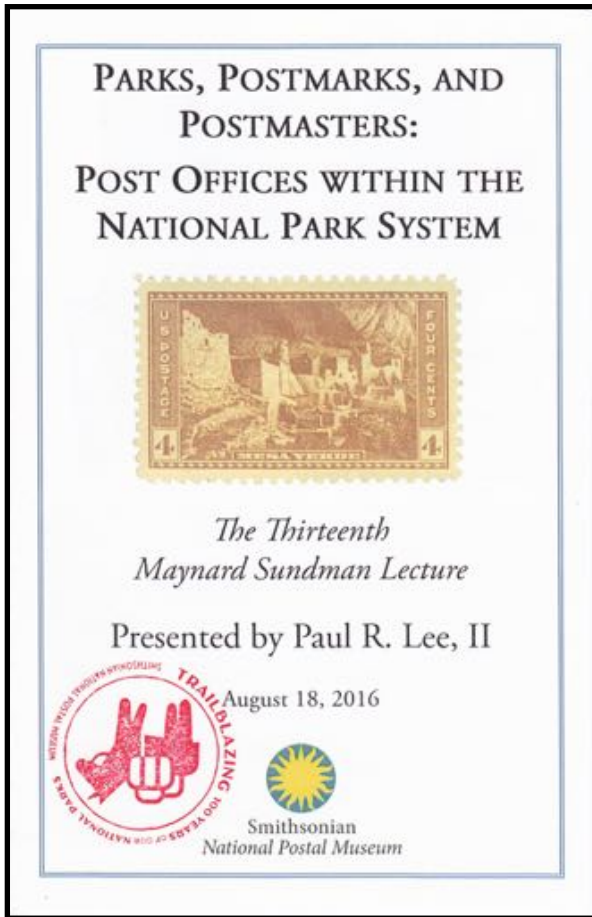


Fig. 3. The program featuring Paul Lee's presentation. Orange stickers were attached to the back of forty of the programs signifying the holder was entitled to a free book. The books were purchased by the Donald and David Sundman and were donated to the lecture event.

Although I had already given numerous talks about the book to groups in the Denver area (including the RMPL), I had never really been satisfied with the presentations. After one of my talks, someone asked me how I judged the success. I replied that I simply counted the number of people who were still awake at the end! For this event, I changed my strategy and followed the advice I had once heard from our own Ron Mitchell. Ron was giving a talk about his book on the "Denver Eagles." He said that he felt that most of us would probably not be terribly interested in all the technical details, but that we might be interested in how he chose the subject, and researched and developed the content. I tried a similar approach, and I felt a lot happier with the result.

One Hundred For the Presentation

On the day of the lecture, there were over 100 people in attendance. About half of these were folks who arrived on a bus from a American First Day Cover Society meeting in Falls Church, VA. The lecture was followed by a luncheon, and tours of the museum, highlighted by the new National Park Service exhibit.

The surprise of the day for me was discovering why 40 hardbound copies of the book had been purchased

(actually by the Sundman brothers) prior to the event. At the start of the program, everyone was told that there would be a special surprise at the end. As it turned out, an orange stamp had been placed on the back of 40 printed lecture programs (Fig. 3). Those who had this stamp were awarded a free copy of the book! Maybe I should have tried that for my earlier talks in Denver for people who were still awake at the end!

Following the lecture, there were many questions and requests for autographs from those who won a free book. After lunch, many participants attended one of the guided tours of the museum.

The Smithsonian Postal Museum

The museum is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue NE (Fig. 4). Construction of the building was completed in 1914, and it served as the main post office for the city of Washington, D.C. until 1986. Following extensive restoration, the National Postal Museum moved in in 1993. Today, the museum occupies two floors of the building, and the remainder is home to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

If you haven't been to the museum recently (or at all), you are in for a treat. Initially the exhibits were confined to the basement level. Those exhibits are still there; however, the museum has now expanded to the main (first) floor. The two rooms of the Postmaster's Gallery are used for changing exhibits. The 100 Years of Our National Parks Trailblazing exhibit will be located there through March 25, 2018.

If you're unable to visit the National Postal Museum while the NPS exhibit is open, be sure to visit the museum's website at www.postalmuseum.si.edu. There you can take a "virtual" tour of the displays, and watch all of the 13 Sundman Lecture videos, including that of yours truly. For videos of these talks, click on the Research Tab and then on Maynard Sundman Lectures.

Note: A limited supply of books are still available at RMPL.



Fig. 4. Since 1993, this gorgeous building has been the home of the Smithsonian National Postal Museum. Originally constructed in 1914, it served as the main post office for Washington, D. C. until 1986.

WHAT'S NEW ON THE SHELVES

UNITED STATES

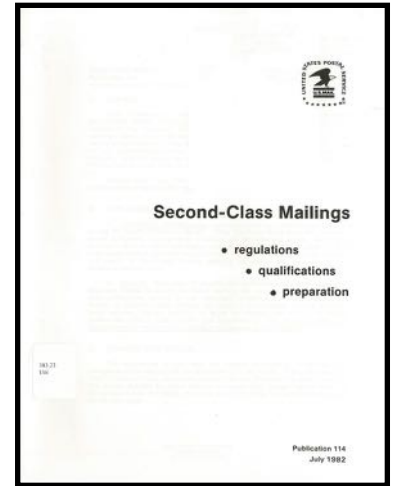
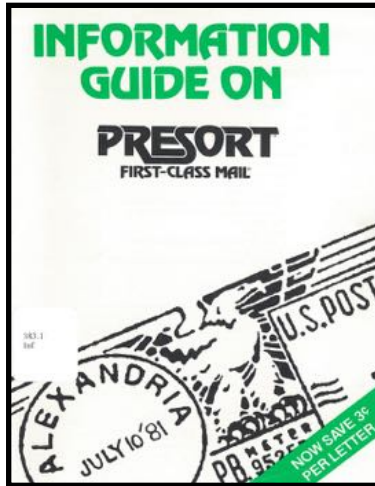
published by the USPS

American Astrophilately: The First 50 Years, by David S. Ball

Forged Overprints on Stamps of the American Administration of the Philippines 1899-1946, by John M. Hunt

AFRICA

The Postmarks and Postal History of Independent Cameroun: 1960 to Date, by M.P. Bratzel, Michael St. J. Wright, and Marc Parren

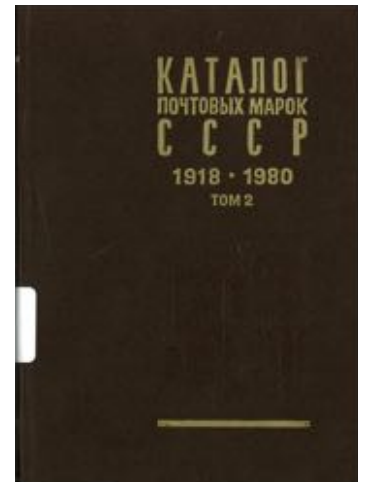
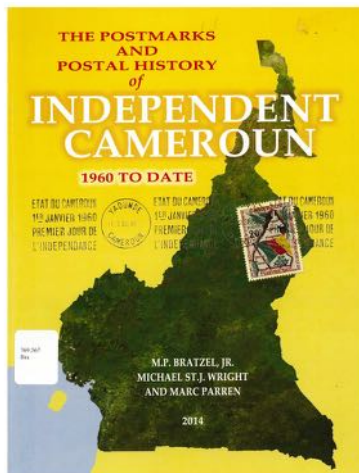


Information Guide on Presort First-Class Mail (June 1981), published by the USPS

International Postal Rates and Fees (March 1981), published by the USPS

ASIA

Каталог почтовых марок СССР, 1918-1980 [Catalog of Stamps of USSR], vol. 2 (1970-1980)



The Postal Service Guide to U.S. Stamps 2011 (38th Edition), published by the United States Postal Service

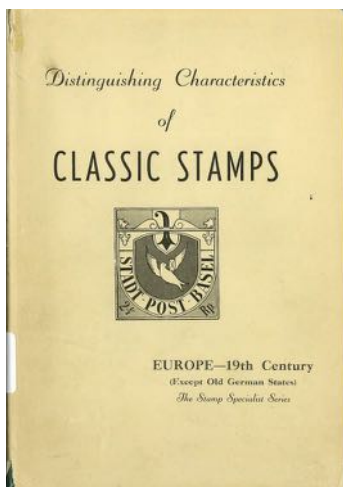
Second-Class Mailings: Regulations, Qualifications, Preparation (July 1982),

EUROPE

Catalogo Dei Bolli Postali

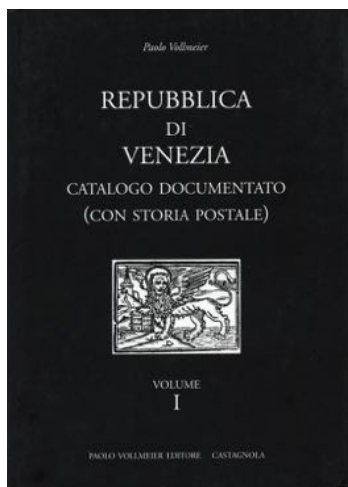
EUROPE

Distinguishing Characteristics of Classic Stamps: Europe-19th Century (except Old German States), by Hermann Schloss



SOUTH AMERICA

Supplement to Monograph 7-The Official Cachets of the Falkland Islands: Autumn 2016, published by the Falkland Islands Philatelic Study Group



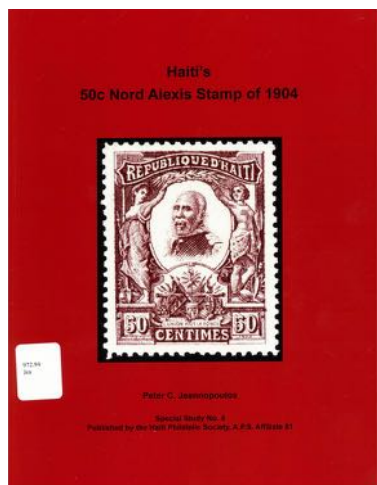
Postal Issues of Lithuanian Republic Catalogue 1991-1992, published by Reikfil

Repubblica di Venezia: Catalogo Documentato (con Storia Postale) Volumes I, II, and III, by Paolo Vollmeier

CENTRAL AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Haiti's 50c Nord Alexis stamp of 1904, by Peter C. Jeannopoulos

Port-au-Prince en Images / Images of Port-au-Prince, by Peter C. Jeannopoulos



Tarieven en Porten de Briefwisseling Louis Lejeans, Marseille, 1768-1790: De Route op Rome [Rates and Taxes from the Correspondence of Louis Lejeans (from various European cities) to Rome 1768-1790], by Leo de Clercq

Uffizi di Posta in Toscana 1814-1861, by Sergio Chieppi and Roberto Monticini

TOPICAL

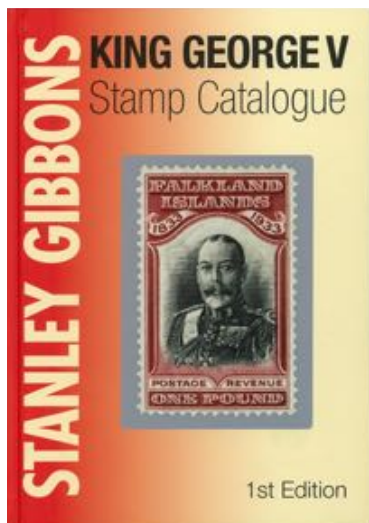
Collect Ships on Stamps, 3rd Edition (2001), published by Stanley Gibbons

MISCELLANEOUS

The Eighty-Second American Philatelic Congress Book 2016, published by the American Philatelic Congress

King George V Stamp Catalog, 1st Edition (2010), published by Stanley Gibbons

King George VI Stamp Catalog, 8th Edition (2009), published by Stanley Gibbons



Proceedings of the Second International Symposium on Analytical Methods in Philately (2016), published by the Institute for Analytical Philately

Stamp Collecting as a Hobby, by Burton Hobson

AUCTION CATALOGS

The Alan Collection of United States Stamps, catalog for a Robert A. Siegel auction September 2016

APS StampShow Auction, catalog for a Regency-Superior auction August 2016

The British Commonwealth Collection of David B. Markowitz, catalog for a Harmer-Schau auction August 2014

Christoph Gärtner 34.Auktion: Nordamerika-North America, catalog for a Christoph Gärtner auction June 2016

Donald A. Kuske Specialized Collection of Canal Zone Stamps & Varieties, Postal History & Postal Stationery, catalog for a Kelleher auction September 2015

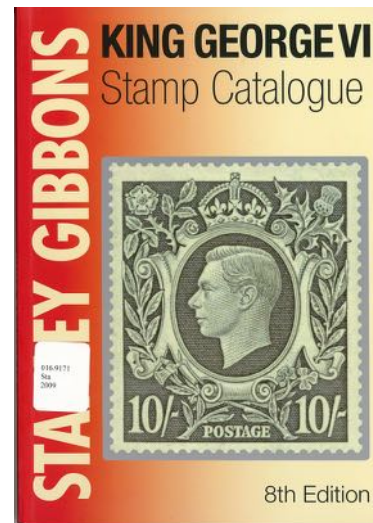
The Flagship Series, catalog for a Kelleher auction October 2015

The Flagship Series, catalog for a Kelleher auction December 2015

The Flagship Series, catalog for a Kelleher auction February 2016

The Flagship Series, catalog for a Kelleher auction March 2016

The Jonathon W. Rose Collection of 1869 Pictorials, catalog for a Robert A. Siegel auction September 1997



The Monarchs Collection of British Commonwealth, catalog for a Cherrystone auction November 2016

Public Auction 3012 Featuring A Specialized Collection of US Proofs and Essays, the Robert Markovits Postal History Collection, the Van Ingen 1st Bureau Issues Collection, and A Specialized Collection of Boer War Covers, catalog for an H.R. Harmer auction October 2016

Public Auction, Chicagopex 2008, catalog for a Kelleher auction November 2008

The SESCOAL sale, catalog for a Schuyler Rumsey auction September 2016

Sets, Singles, Postal History & Collections of the World, catalog for an H.R. Harmer auction October 2016

Sonderkatalog Die Sammlung Rainer Ihlenburg, catalog for a Schlegel auction September & October, 2016

Stamp Auction, catalog for a Regency-Superior auction October 2016

Stamps Public Auction, catalog for a Regency Superior auction April 2009

Stamps Public Auction, catalog for a Regency Superior auction June 2009

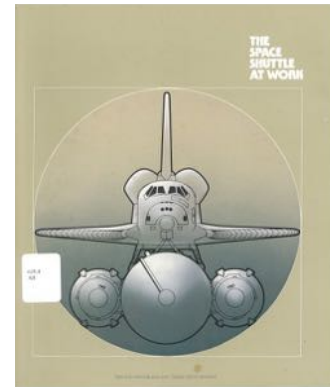
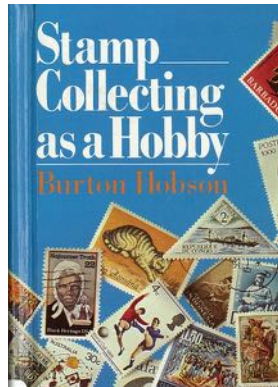
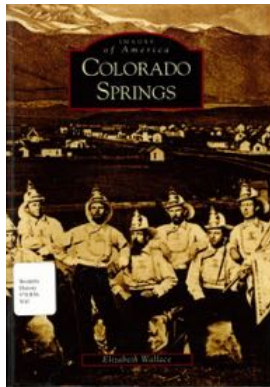
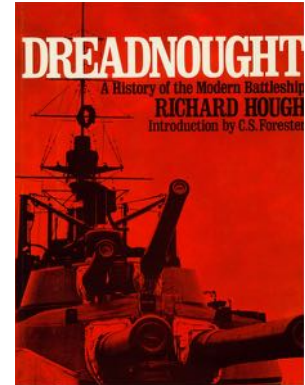
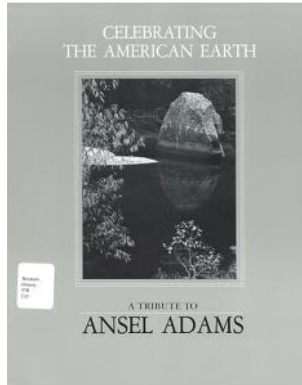
Stamps Public Auction, catalog for a Regency Superior auction August 2009

Dreadnought: A History of the Modern Battleship, by Richard Hough

Fighting Ships of World Wars One and Two

Images of America: Colorado Springs, by Elizabeth Wallace

Jane's Fighting Ships 1924 (reprint edition), edited by Oscar Parkes and Francis E. McMurtrie



United State and Confederate States Postal History, catalog for a Robert A. Siegel auction December 1994

United States and Possessions Featuring selections from a Gold-Award Exhibit of Colored Cancellations on the 1869 Pictorial Issue, catalog for a Robert A. Siegel auction July 2016

NON-PHILATELIC

Celebrating the American Earth: A Tribute to Ansel Adams, published by the Wilderness Society

Jane's Fighting Ships 1979-1980: Eighty-Second Year of Issue, edited by Captain John Moore

Jane's Naval Review, 4th year of publication, edited by Captain John Moore

Jefferson County Colorado: Its Colorful Past of a Great Community, by Sara E. Robbins

The Space Shuttle at Work, published by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration

New Zealand's "CALs"

By Jeff Modesitt

Money moves the mail. From the inception of the postage stamp era, heralded-in with the issuance of the Penny Black and the Mulready envelopes, financing mail delivery and related services has been an ongoing challenge. This has been especially true for countries like New Zealand which cannot benefit from high population density or proximity to most of the world's populations (at least those with whom they have historically communicated) to keep their fulfillment costs down.

Ideas to Bolster Revenue

New Zealand has seen a series of innovative efforts to bolster postal-related income. In 1893, the government entered into a contract with Miller, Truebridge, and Reich that allowed them to utilize the backs of stamps for advertising purposes. I do not know how successful these stamps were as advertisements, but the stamps that bear the dozens of different messages are highly sought-after.

Customized Advertising Labels

Other efforts have dotted the New Zealand postal landscape culminating recently (2004) in what was originally promoted by New Zealand Post as Postage Advertising Labels (PALs). These labels were primarily intended to help businesses personalize their marketing campaigns. Only two businesses used the PALs in 2004 and the program did not seem to flourish.

The first PAL was issued in February of 2004 for the Wellington Festival of Arts. It seems as if virtually no one knew about this new postal program because that issue is extremely scarce. Shortly after, in April, the ANZ bank produced a set of three 5 cent stamps (as make-up values to meet a rate increase) in combination with three banking clients (Fig. 1). These, also, are rather hard to find, especially used on a commercial cover.



So here's something to help with the increase in postage this month.

Fig. 1. A portion of the brochure sent out to ANZ customers with six 5¢ make-up stamps for the rate change from 40¢ to 45¢.

As far as I know they are legal franking for both domestic and international mail, but do not appear to meet UPU regulations. Regardless, the philatelic community caught on quickly and used the program to advertise stamp exhibits and raise funds by selling the CAL products at significant

In December 2004, the post office's Stamps and Collectible division took over the program, relabeled it Customized Advertising Labels or CALs, and broadened the focus. CALs are issued by the New Zealand Post Retail Group and bear a new Zealand Post logo and denominations that meet current rates. As

premiums. That was before they found out that the Post office was going to sell them at face value starting in 2007—ouch! Despite that miscalculation, CALs are still being produced and are an active collecting specialization in New Zealand and abroad. They are listed, but not priced in the Campbell Patterson Catalogue ("Irregular Issues").

Collectable, But Not a Stamp

Because CALs do not carry the unique New Zealand Post fern (logo) or the words New Zealand and are not available from the Post Shop network, they are not considered stamps. However, they look like a stamp, act like a stamp, and cost the same as a stamp (Fig.2). Well, you know about the duck—that is my feeling about Cals. And, really, if you want to get technical about this ID dilemma, take a look at the selvedge lettering of the Penny Blacks.



Fig.2. It looks like a stamp, acts like one, and cost like one.

Yes, indeed, it identifies them as "labels." That puts the CALs in good company and everyone of them is scarcer than a Penny Black!

You can identify CALs very easily despite the missing fern and the country name. They all have a red stripe on the right edge that carries the denomination and a NZ envelope logo.

Your Very Own Stamps...er Labels

How would you like your CAL printed? Your choices are exceptionally broad. You can have sheets of 25 or 50 stamps, as well as coil rolls of 100. If you are after convenience, perhaps a booklet format would be more to your liking! Would you prefer them gummed or self-adhesive? Both are available. Printing is by lithography in a four color press and the resulting labels can have either sheet perforations or die-cuts for the self-adhesives (Fig. 3).

CALs offer everything that a collector could want—variety, reasonable cost, a variety of subjects, interesting postal history aspects, and a good challenge.

If you are looking for a new collecting area, take a look!



Fig. 3. Advertising, commemoration, and functionality!

RMSS Scores With Brett Cup!

By Steve McGill

President of the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show

This is exciting news and quite a coup for the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (RMSS) and regional collectors. The George Brett Cup is a new exhibit award that focuses on worldwide modern material defined as 1901 to the present. This is an invitational-only event that is open only to exhibits that have won a Grand or Reserve Grand award at a Worlds Series of Philately (WSP) show in the past three years.

This inaugural Brett Cup event will offer a rare opportunity to see, in one location, many of the best exhibits of recent years. Presentations and a panel discussion are being planned around this event.

The RMSS has been asked to reserve 150 frames for this competition and, according to Jerry Eggleston, exhibit chairman, entries are already flowing in. Overall, this year's RMSS could have upwards of 300 frames.

With this number of frames expected, it is important that exhibit applications be received soon if you are considering entering an exhibit in 2017. This will avoid being disappointed later if our space fills up.

An exhibit application can be downloaded at: <http://www.rockymountainstampshow.com/> with the mailing/email instructions for sending your application to Jerry Eggleston, our Exhibits Chair. Please note that the new exhibiting rules require the submittal of your Title Page AND a maximum two page synopsis on your exhibit. Please also include a bibliography of reference sources to assist the judges in researching your material.

Again this year, the RMSS will be hosting a number of national societies. The theme for this year's show is "Honoring Our Fallen Heroes."

The Societies joining us are: The Civil Censorship Study Group, The Military Postal History Society, The Universal Ship Cancellation Society, The American Society of Polar Philatelists and The Colorado Postal History Society. These enthusiasts will bring a broad range of exhibit material and will be present on the show floor with booths manned by their society members. Best of all, there will be a series of presentations on Thursday from these groups, a day prior to the show's opening.

As always, the show will have a full complement of dealers, the RMPL Silent Auction, Society and Club tables and our Youth table.

The show will be held at our same location, The Crown Plaza Hotel, near the Denver International Airport. Directions to the hotel and information on booking a room can be found at the same web site listed above. Note that our show days are a bit different in 2017 with the show being held May 26-28, 2017.

We look forward to seeing you there!

The ROCKY MOUNTAIN STAMP SHOW
hosting
The GEORGE BRETT cup
MAY 26 ~ 28, 2017
DENVER, COLORADO

Guest Societies
Civil Censorship Study Group
Military Postal History Society
Universal Ship Cancellation Society
American Society of Polar Philatelists
Colorado Postal History Society

Now Accepting Exhibits
WWW. ROCKYMOUNTAINSTAMPSHOW.COM

HELP WANTED

We need more help at the Front Desk. Our volunteers at the front desk usually work a half day (10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.). It is a great way to get to know the membership, as well as the library's reference material. The work load is usually light with time for socializing, research, or working on your collection. Primary duties include checking books in and out and taking payment for purchased materials. We will provide training. Contact John Sinski or Howard Benson.

303-759-9921

SECOND SATURDAY PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY

Second Saturday programs are sponsored by the RMPL and attract a friendly group of folks who are interested in a specific subject, or who are interested in learning more about an area of philately that may be new to them.

*Contact Jim Kilbane if you would like to present a program.
His email is aurora_80017@yahoo.com*

January 14, 9:00 a.m.

The (British) Stamp Office

The Most Important Post Office Organization that You've Never Heard of!

Presented by Jeff Modesitt

Founded in 1694, this organization has had its fingers in everything from taxation to Great Britain's colorful and challenging Stamped to Order issues.

Join the Second Saturday group and find out why it was so important, yet virtually unknown!



After a little history about the Stamp Office, the program will focus on the Stamped to Order (STO) issues of Great Britain. These issues include not only some of the best looking philatelic material that Britain has to offer, but also some of the scarcest!

February 11, 9:00 a.m.

Austrian Empire Stamps 1883 - 1904

By Charlie Freise



A presentation on the first issues of the Austrian Empire, to include paper types, perforation and color varieties, and the use of varnish bars to prevent cleaning and re-use of canceled stamps.

NEW MEMBERS

The RMPL is pleased to welcome the following new members who have joined the library during the past two months.

- ◆ Keith Hart, Highlands Ranch, CO - Collects Czechoslovakia, Czech Republic, and Slovakia.

DONATIONS: October 1-November 30, 2016

The library thrives on the enthusiasm and generosity of its members. The following members made donations to the library (October through November) (alphabetized by first name). We thank each and every one who has contributed, many of you multiple times. Here are the people and organizations who contributed during this period.

Aurora Stamp Club	Glenn Mallory
Betsy Clark	Henry Siccardi
Colorado Postal History Society	Jim Lange
Dalene Thomas	John Hudson
Fred Bauer	Keith Youngren
George Griffenhagen	Nolan Flowers
	Rodney Plummer

2017 RMPL Country Lot Sale

February 25, 2017 has been reserved for the next Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library's 2017 Country Lot Sale. This year there will be 155 lots up for grabs.

Among these lots are many standouts. Austria #2 has fewer stamps than Austria #1, but has above average material. Cyprus is another to set your magnifier

on with its blocks and Souvenir panes. Towards the bottom of the list you will find eight lots of United States material. Each lot is substantially different and the total item counts are high.

All of the lots will be ready for viewing starting Thursday, February 23rd from 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., Friday, February 24th from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and the day of the sale from 8:00 a.m. until 8:50 a.m.

Please read the rules of the auction found at the top of the country list and prices.

Set your alarm clock early in order to get a spot in line for the sale. A signup sheet will be posted on the door for first-arrivers.



RMPL BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

RMPL BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting of December 1, 2016

Prepared by President John Sinski

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

All Board members present except Bill Plachte, Tim Heins and Don Dhonau. Roger Rydberg was also present. The July Board Meeting Minutes were approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Balance Sheet and Income and Expenses were distributed and discussed. RMPL income for October was \$13,847. Income for year 2016 through October was \$46,196. A Proposed Budget for 2017 will be further discussed at the next meeting in January.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Board approved the initial payment for carpeting in building 7070 (back of 2048). It will cover the large Library room (old garage area) and Conference/Sorting Room.

The Large Lots Auction in October resulted in a final income of \$16,314 received.

NEW BUSINESS:

A review of RMPL insurance coverage is being conducted. The Board approved making an increase in our Director and Officer (D&O) policy coverage. We are continuing a review of the coverage of our property insurance.

The Library will have to raise rates for Society printing due to a rise in cost of paper (two cents per page) effective January 1, 2017. Societies will be notified by letters.

A holiday gift payment for our cleaning staff was approved by the Board.

A gift certificate to Charles Baker for his extensive time and effort on our computer upgrades was approved by the Board.

The Board agreed to have Bill Crabbs to contact a plumber to take care of some maintenance needs.

David Weisberg asked the Board to consider our policy on the use of donated collections. Should we accumulate added Special Reference Collections or use them for future auctions? The Board agreed that unless a collection offered significant scholarship, they should be put into circulation.

We received a large collection of books from George Griffenhagen (former editor of Topical Times). Ellengail has verified that we currently do not have most of these items. She will spend time well into the New Year cataloging these books. We are adding another bookcase rack to the Topical Section of the main Library.

New RMPL members were approved by Board. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

For the Record: Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

For the Record: Next Board Meeting:
Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 7:00



Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Thursday 2 - 8 p.m. Closed Sundays and Holidays. Phone: (303) 759-9921

Meeting times and places sometimes change. It is best to call the library or the club to confirm the place and time. A calendar of reserved club times is kept at the library by the Operations Manager, Howard Benson. Clubs should check the calendar regularly and notify Howard at (303) 521-6216 of any changes or updates. All requests to reserve meeting time and space for philately related meetings other than those listed here must be approved and scheduled by Howard well in advance.

**** January 2017****

January 1- 2 Sun-Mon Library Closed

January 4 Wed-Aurora Stamp Club

6:30 p.m. Trading

7:00 p.m. Meeting

January 7 Sat-Meeting-10:00 a.m.

Scandinavian Collectors Club

January 11 Wed-Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Germany Stamp Club

January 12 Thu-Meeting 2:00 p.m.

Cherrelyn Stamp Club

January 12 Thu-Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Denver Postcard Club

January 13 Fri-Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Austria-Hungary Stamp Club

Second Saturday at the RMPL

January 14, 9:00 a.m.

Program by Jeff Modesitt
The Stamp Office

January 14 Sat-Meeting 10:00 a.m.

Mexico/Latin America Club

January 15 Sun-2:00 p.m.

Great Britain and Colonies CC

January 16 Mon-MLK Day Library Closed

January 18 Wed- 7:00 p.m.

Arapahoe Stamp Club

January 19 Thu-Meeting 7:00 p.m.

RMPL Board of Directors

All members are welcome

January 21 Sat-Meeting 9:30 a.m.

Denver Young Collectors

January 24 Tue-Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Rocky Mountain Stamp Show Committee

January 25 Wed-Meeting 11:00 noon

Denver Stamp Club

**** February 2017****

February 1 Wed-Aurora Stamp Club

6:30 p.m. Trading

7:00 p.m. Meeting

February 4 Sat-10:00 a.m.

Scandinavian Collectors Club

February 4 Sat- 1:00 p.m.

Topic Collectors Club

February 8 Wed-Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Germany Stamp Club

February 9 Thu-Meeting 2:00 p.m.

Cherrelyn Stamp Club

February 9 Thu-Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Denver Postcard Club-No Meeting

February 10 Fri-Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Austria-Hungary Stamp Club

Second Saturday at the RMPL

February 11 9:00 a.m.

Program by Charlie Freise
Austrian Empire Stamps 1883 - 1904

February 11 Sat-Meeting 10:00

Mexico/Latin America Club

February 11 Sat-Meeting 11:30

Rocky Mountain Aerophilatelic Club

February 15 Wed-7:00 p.m.

Arapahoe Stamp Club

February 18 Sat- 1:00p.m.

Colorado Postal History Society

February 18 Sat-Meeting 9:30 a.m.

Denver Young Collectors

February 19 Sun-Meeting 2:00 p.m.

Great Britain & Commonwealth Collectors Club

February 20 Mon-President's Day Library Closed

February 22 Wed-11:00 a.m.

Denver Stamp Club

February 23 Thu-2:00 p.m.

Country Lot Sale viewing

February 24 Fri-10:00 a.m.

Country Lot Sale viewing

February 25 Sat-8:00 a.m.

Country Lot Sale

February 28 Tue- Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Rocky Mountain Stamp Show Committee