



# Scribblings

... from the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library

Sherrí Soraci-Jennings, Librarian

Vol. 31 - No. 6

2038 South Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224-2412

November/December 2023

www.rockymountainphilateliclibrary.org

(303)-759-9921

Email: rmpldenverco@gmail.com

## IN THIS ISSUE

**30th Anniversary Open House**  
by Charlie Freise ..... 1

**President's Message**  
by Tonny Van Loij ..... 2

**General Notices** ..... 3

**6th Annual Country, Cover and Postcard Auction** ... 3

**RMPL 2024 Election Information**..... 5

**2nd Annual Denver Stamp Club Auction**..... 10

**Two New RMPL Videos**  
by Sergio Lugo ..... 10

**Covering the World**  
by John Bloor ..... 11

**Young Collectors Corner**  
by Charlie Freise ..... 12

**Hidden Secrets of the One Cent Large Bank Note Stamp (1870-1894)**  
by Charlie Freise ..... 13

**Second Saturday Programs**

**"US Consular Services and Its Stamps: An Overview"**  
by Ravi Vora ..... 14

**"Queen Elizabeth Philatelic Retrospective"**  
by Steve McGill ..... 14

**Librarian Notes**..... 15

**Editor Notes** ..... 15

**The First Embossed Postage Stamps**  
by Charlie Freise ..... 15

**New Publications for our Members**..... 16

**Board Minutes - September 21, 2023** ..... 18

**Donations**..... 19

**New Members** ..... 19

**Scheduled Library Events**..... 20

## 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House

by Charlie Freise

On August 26, 2023, the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with an open house. Volunteers gathered early in the morning to clean, set up the tables and chairs, canopies and decorations. Every available space was used in the main library, meeting room and parking lot in anticipation of the number of confirmed attendees. Fortunately, the weather was perfect with a light breeze and temperatures in the low 80s.



Throughout the afternoon members stopped by to visit with old friends and acquaintances. The casual, relaxed atmosphere allowed everyone the opportunity to gather and catch up on the latest events in families and the philatelic community. More than 100 individuals signed the registration book, there were quite a few attendees who have not been seen in some time. It was great to see Sue Dunn, Kathy Crabbs, Helen Milam, Roger Rydberg and his wife Marty, Andy Murin's daughters, and many others.

continued on page 4

# Scribblings

## Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library

2038 South Pontiac Way  
Denver, CO 80224

Phone: (303) 759-9921

Email: [rmpldenverco@gmail.com](mailto:rmpldenverco@gmail.com)

Web Page: [www.rockymountainphilateliclibrary.org](http://www.rockymountainphilateliclibrary.org)

Instagram: The RMPL

Hours: Monday - Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Thursday 5:00 - 8:00 PM

Closed Sundays and Holidays

### Librarian

Sherri Soraci-Jennings

### Library Officers

President:	Tonny Van Loij
Vice President:	Jim Kilbane
Operations Manager:	Steve Schweighofer
Stamp Manager:	Dasa Metzler
Corresponding Secretary:	Paul Domenici
Recording Secretary:	Regina Domenici
Treasurer:	William Douglass
Bookkeeper:	Linda Veres

### Directors

Eric Carlson      Rod Haenni  
Rich Palestro      Gary Withrow

Ex-officio member: Don Dhonau

### Scribblings Editor

Charlie Freise

### Copy Editors / Proofreaders

John Bloor              Roger Rydberg  
Paul Domenici          Steve Schweighofer  
Sherri Soraci-Jennings

*Scribblings* is published bimonthly by the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library. The RMPL is a chartered Colorado nonprofit corporation and is an IRS-designated 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Membership subscriptions over that for the contributing membership, and donations of appropriate philatelic materials, may be deductible for US income tax purposes. The Library is a volunteer organization. Financial donations, philatelic books, stamps, supplies and donations of your time are welcome. The Library Bylaws are available for review at the Library or you may obtain a copy upon request.

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

Officers and Directors may be contacted through the RMPL.

## From the Desk of the President -

by Tonny Van Loij



Another summer is gone and we will be well into fall by the time you receive this latest issue of *Scribblings*.

The Library celebrated an important event of the end of August. The 30th Anniversary Open House was a resounding success with more than 100 individuals in attendance. This is directly attributed to the efforts of the volunteer staff.

Special recognition goes out to Paul and Regina Domenici along with their family for planning, organizing and setting up the event; Eddie Hackstaff for stocking and managing the wine bar, Gary Withrow for coordinating the catering, and Sherri Soraci-Jennings and friends for decorating. There were many others, too numerous to mention individually, who assisted in cleaning the Library prior to the event and setting up the tables, chairs, and canopies. The weather was beautiful and visitors had the greatest time visiting and catching up on news and events.

On another note, **we will NOT have a Holiday dinner** for a number of reasons. An adequate facility to accommodate our large group is difficult to find, reservations are required well in advance and the expense of hosting the event is prohibitive. We will try to come up with an alternative for volunteers and significant others next year.

I urge all members to contact the RMPL whenever there is a change in address. Also, if you do not receive an issue of *Scribblings*, please contact the Library and verify the mailing address we have on file. Every mailing we receive a number of returned copies (address unknown, forwarding order expired, missing apartment number). With postal rates going up every six months we are asking every member to help the Library save on postage.

Finally, with the end of the year approaching I wish everyone a very happy, healthy and safe holiday season.

Tonny Van Loij  
President

## INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTICE

**In the event of inclement weather the Library may close unexpectedly. Prior to venturing out, particularly when it is snowing, it is advisable to call ahead and make sure the Library is open.**

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### LIBRARY EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGE

With the change in Internet service provider the email address for the Library has changed. Our new email address is: [rmpldenverco@gmail.com](mailto:rmpldenverco@gmail.com).

### UPDATE YOUR MAILING ADDRESS

Moving? Do you have a new telephone number? Do you have a new email address? Please remember to notify the Library with your new contact information by calling the Library at 303-759-9921, or email your contact information to: [rmpldenverco@gmail.com](mailto:rmpldenverco@gmail.com).

### 2024 ROCKY MOUNTAIN STAMP SHOW

This is a continuing call for volunteers to commit a few hours of their time to help at next year's stamp show. Volunteers are needed to manage the registration desk, assist with floor management, setting up and taking down the exhibit frames, mounting exhibits and assisting with cachet sales. Contact Andrew Kelley at [stamps@andrewkelley.net](mailto:stamps@andrewkelley.net) for more information on volunteering.

### PSGSA MEMBERSHIP OFFER



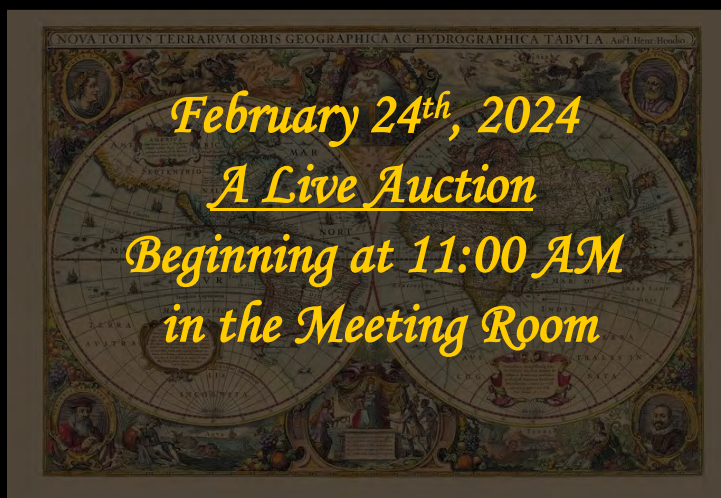
The Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa is offering **FREE** one-year memberships for new applicants. As a member you will receive the award-winning journal *Forerunners*, published three times per year. If you have an interest in the Greater Southern Africa philately and postal history go to [www.psgsa.org](http://www.psgsa.org) and email [piperjohn165@gmail.com](mailto:piperjohn165@gmail.com) to be added to our rolls.

### LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Additional help is needed in almost every area of RMPL operations, especially back-ups for publishing and stamp mart operations. If you are interested in becoming more active with the RMPL, whether it is helping publish *Scribblings*, sorting donations for our stamp mart, or helping with library maintenance, please contact the Library at 303-759-9921.

## The Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library Presents the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Country, Cover and Postcard Lots Auction

**375 Lots  
and  
NO  
BUYERS  
PREMIUM !**



**Lots can be viewed anytime at:  
[www.rmplauctions.org](http://www.rmplauctions.org)**

**Lots are  
available for  
viewing  
Monday,  
February 19<sup>th</sup>,  
through Friday,  
February 23<sup>rd</sup>,  
during normal  
business  
hours.**

continued from page 1

The event was catered by Hippy Chicks, of Lakewood, with plenty of hors d'oeuvres, water, sodas and a free wine bar.



Special recognition awards were presented to Dasa Metzler and Joe Lanotte. Dasa, a long-standing Library volunteer, serves as the Stamp Manager. She has been sorting donated stamps, covers and postcards from donations for more than 15 years. Joe Lanotte serves as the Library IT Services Manager. He is responsible for bringing the Library into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with new computers, software, improving internet service and troubleshooting problems related to the same.

The 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary open house would not have been possible without the efforts of the outstanding RMPL volunteer staff. Special thanks to Paul and Regina Domenici, and members of their family, for planning the event and providing the fresh-cut flower centerpieces. Gary Withrow managed the catering; Steve Schweighofer supervised the setup of the tables, chairs and canopies; Eddie Hackstaff managed the wine bar and Sherri Soraci-Jennings and friends decorated the Library and meeting room. Of course, there were many additional volunteers, too numerous to name, who assisted with the event.

The resounding success of the event proves the Rocky Mountain philatelic community and the RMPL continue to thrive.



## RMPL ELECTION PROCESS

A separate ballot is included with this copy of *Scribblings*, ballots are due by January 31, 2024. All candidates for officer positions for this election and are running unopposed. Please show your support by casting your vote.

Mail completed ballots to the RMPL, 2038 S. Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224-2412, or deposit your completed ballot in the box located at the front desk. We will announce the results of the election on February 23, 2024.

Questions or comments should be addressed to the Election Committee (John Bloor and Erl Fossum) at:

**John Bloor at [aerophil59@yahoo.com](mailto:aerophil59@yahoo.com)**



## CANDIDATES FOR THE 2024 RMPL ELECTION

**President: Tonny Van Loij**

**Vice President: Jim Kilbane**

**Corresponding Secretary: Paul Domenici**

**Recording Secretary: Regina Domenici**

**Operations Manager: Steve Schweighofer**

**Directors (vote for four of the candidates)**

**Eric Carlson\***

**Charlie Freise**

**Rod Haenni\***

**Ken Luke**

**Rich Palestro\***

**Alex Papp**

**John Peters**

**Gary Withrow\***

Notes:

1. \* indicates incumbent Board Member
2. The Treasurer and Stamp Manager positions are appointed by the Board of Directors.

## CANDIDATE INFORMATION

### PRESIDENT



**Tonny Van Loij - RMPL Member Since: 1993. Has served as Library President since 2018 and is running unopposed.**

A collector since I was 9, I began with Belgium and then western Europe. After I came to the US, I did not resume collecting until 1989. My primary interests were in classical music and EUROPA. These evolved to include Colorado Postal History and philatelic material from the Kansas and Colorado Territories, Thurn and Taxis and "Christkindl" cancellations.

I am a longtime member of the RMPL (1993, #126), a member of the APS, APRL, ATA, Scandinavian Collectors Club, Denver Stamp Club, Germany Philatelic Society, Austrian Philatelic Society, Thurn und Taxis e. V. (Germany) and Motivgruppe Music e. V. (Germany). I have served as President and Treasurer for many of the local stamp clubs.

### VICE PRESIDENT



**Jim Kilbane - RMPL Member Since: 1993. Has served as Library Vice President since 1993 with the exception of one year (2004) and is running unopposed.**

I have been Vice-President of the RMPL for many years. My main duties have been overseeing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Program, assisting the president as needed, participating in various Library committees, serving as a member of the RMPL's Technology Committee, assisting in mailing *Scribblings* and other duties as requested.

In the past I have been president of ROMPEX and the Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society (TMPS). I have served as president for various stamp clubs: Aurora, Cherrelyn, Collectors Club of Denver, Denver Stamp Club, and Des Moines Stamp Club.

Among my collections I collect Iowa and Colorado Postal History, Post Office Registered Package Envelopes and their associated documents and foreign revenue stamps. I also will add to my collection anything that looks interesting.

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY



**Paul Domenici - RMPL Member since 2018. He is currently serving as the Corresponding Secretary and is running unopposed.**

Hello fellow RMPL members. My name is Paul Domenici and I am seeking a second term as corresponding secretary. I also serve the Library as the Auction Manager and Volunteer Coordinator. After getting settled, I joined the RMPL in June 2018. I have been a front-desk volunteer and stamp sorter during my entire time here.

I am a long-time member of the following organizations: the American Philatelic Society, the American Topical Association, the Pitcairn Island Study Group, and the Precancel Stamp Society. I am primarily a worldwide collector, but my two real interests are United States bureau precancels and the philately and ephemera of Pitcairn Island.

### RECORDING SECRETARY



**Regina Domenici - RMPL Member since 2018. She is currently serving as the Recording Secretary and is running unopposed.**

Hello! I'm Regina Domenici and I would like to have a second term as the Board's Recording Secretary. I joined the RMPL when we moved to Colorado in 2018, am a member of the Topical club and I enjoy supporting the CYPHER youth club.

After 48 years of living with a stamp collector, I've seen the light and started pursuing my own stamp interests. I'm a novice at philately, but my interest lies in collecting bird stamps from the Audubon birth bicentenary. With your support, I will continue serving the RMPL community for 3 more years.

## CANDIDATE INFORMATION

### OPERATIONS MANAGER



**Steve Schweighofer - RMPL Member since 1993. He is currently serving as the Operations Manager and is running unopposed.**

I am retired from the U. S. Air Force, as well as the U. S. Postal Service. My interest in stamp collecting dates from the mid-1950s and my RMPL membership since its founding.

My activities at the RMPL include serving on the Board, regular front desk duty, stamp sorter, manager of the auction catalogs collection, organizer and maintainer of the stamp show catalogs collection, the maps collection, the periodicals and stamps catalog collection archives and the sales book shelves. I have served as a proofreader for *Scribblings*.

I have assisted others with the buildings, grounds, computer maintenance and general fixer of anything in need.

### BOARD MEMBER



**Eric Carlson - RMPL Member since the 1990s. He is currently serving as a Board Member**

I was born in a small town in NW Pennsylvania (Warren) known for deer hunting and fishing. I did neither. When I left Warren for college, I was fairly sure I did not want to return. I found my true love at college (Marge Green) and she agreed to change her name. We were married in 1963.

I enlisted in the Air Force after college and went to San Antonio (Lackland AFB), survived a Lithuanian training officer, and entered life as a Second Lieutenant. They sent me to Amarillo for Supply School as my eyes were not good enough to fly. Two years in Del Rio Texas, one year remote in Thailand and a year plus in Colorado Springs was enough.

I got into the health care administration field in Dallas, Texas, and after a couple years we decided it was too HOT there. We returned to Colorado and I worked for several BlueCross and BlueShield organizations.

My stamp collecting started like many as a kid with hiatuses as a teen and college student. I joined the Cherrelyn Stamp Club in the 1980s and am currently president-for-life, it seems. I became interested in the RMPL in the 1990s and I also became a dealer buying Pat and Earl Timm's business. I am an eclectic collector with a focus on early Scandinavian issues and a novice Machin collector.

My other interests are golf, reading (mostly adventure and mysteries) spiced with a biography periodically. The COVID chaos has also driven me to jigsaw puzzles.

At the Library I volunteer at the front desk on Thursday and assists Dasa with the stamp program. I believe the Library is a vibrant part of the stamp collecting fabric and want to see it continue to flourish. Many have contributed to its status of today and I want to do my part to honor their efforts.

### BOARD MEMBER



**Richard (Rich) Palestro - RMPL Member since 2004. He is currently serving as a Board Member.**

I have been a library member and volunteer for 19 years. I have been collecting stamps since I was eleven years old. I have served on the board for six years. I currently volunteer two days a week assisting Dasa and Paul with donation sorting. I also sort U.S. stamps for sale. In the past I have participated in the building maintenance process for many years.

As a board member, I believe I bring an understanding of the issues that face the Library's future.

## CANDIDATE INFORMATION

### BOARD MEMBER



**Rod Haenni - RMPL Member and currently serving as a Board Member.**

My philatelic life started at age 5 when I began collecting stamps torn from envelopes received at my father's business. I collected United States, Great Britain, France and Australia into college and then got interested in Guatemala. For the past 20 or so years, I've been an enthusiastic collector of Zeppelin, Hawaii and Guatemalan postal history, as well as cacti and other succulents on post cards. I have been a member of the APS since 1978 and a member and board member of the International Society of Guatemala Collectors for several years.

I worked as a geologist in uranium and lead-zinc-silver mineral exploration throughout the US. I then sold books and databases to libraries of all types, sold library automation systems to academic and public libraries and capped my working days by owning my own stamp and coin business, Arapahoe Coin & Stamp, in Littleton. I thoroughly enjoyed

working with collectors at all levels.

I have been a member of the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library for many years and am honored to be considered as a candidate for the board of directors. There is some evidence that interest in stamp collecting among people under 40 is increasing; perhaps the large number of world travelers in that age group has helped increase awareness of philately. In any event, I believe the best days of the RMPL are still to come and my contributions in making presentations, evaluating donations, and helping to oversee financial matters that come before the board will allow me to be of service to the RMPL.

### BOARD MEMBER



**Gary Withrow - RMPL Member since the 1990s. He is currently serving as a Board Member**

I retired in March 2019 as a Senior Project Manager working on healthcare-related software applications. I started collecting stamps in 1959. My parents bought me some approvals and I was given my father's stamp album. I started collecting worldwide, then I focused on the US while in the Service.

I currently collect worldwide prior to 1950. I have focused on Switzerland and it is the only country for which I collect new issues. I am also interested in Latin America as well as any airmail-related stamps or covers. I also collect anything that strikes my fancy.

I am currently working on a study of worldwide airmail-specific envelopes. I started this effort when I retired to have something on which to focus my attention. Currently I manage the RMPL auction website, as well as work to reconcile the auction winners after the auction closes. I volunteer to work the front desk. I am a member of the American Helvetia Philatelic Society and I mail their bi-monthly newsletter. I am a member of the Latin America Study Group and the Rocky Mountain Aero & Astrophilatelic Club.

### BOARD MEMBER (NOMINEE)



**Ken Luke - RMPL member since the 1990s.**

My name is Ken Luke and I am running for a position as a library board member. I am currently a member of the Denver and the Cherrilyn Stamp Clubs. When I joined the Denver club in 2018, there were four members. At my second meeting, after Joe Lambert had to resign as president, I was elected president. We started a campaign to recruit members for the Club. Our membership presently stands at 35. If I am elected, I would like similarly to increase the library membership and to upgrade membership levels of existing library members. Increases in membership income will help with the rising costs of the library.

Auctions are another important source of income for the library. I have helped with member auctions at the Denver club and can bring this experience to the library. Local stamp shows can encourage collector interest. The Denver club held the first Mile High Stamp Show in July and I am the show chairman for the Cherrilyn Stamp Show in September. I also would like to explore other ways to bring collectors together to trade and sell stamps.



## CANDIDATE INFORMATION

### BOARD MEMBER (NOMINEE)

#### **Alex Papp - RMPL member for more than 10 years.**



I'm Alex Papp and would like to become a member of the Board of Directors at the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library. The RMPL has provided me with years of enjoyment and I would like to get more involved to help continue the excellent programs available to its members as well as to pioneer new opportunities to serve them.

Philately has been my lifelong passion and I have been a member of the RMPL for over 10 years. As an active volunteer, I work at the RMPL front desk on Mondays and help prepare stamp lots for auctions and in stocking sales books. I am a member of the APS and the Denver and Topical Stamp Clubs. Aside from my interest in stamps I work part time as a geologist and I love to play golf. My philatelic knowledge, RMPL experience, and energy will make me a good fit with the other officers and board members. I look forward to guiding the future development of the RMPL.

### BOARD MEMBER (NOMINEE)

#### **John Peters - RMPL member for more than 13 years.**



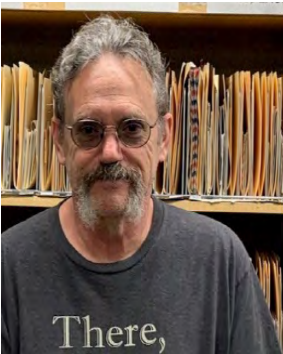
My name is John Peters and I have been a member of the RMPL for over 13 years. I am interested in being a candidate for a position on the Library Board.

About 10 years ago, I volunteered as curator of the Library's Special Collections. It took me three years to dig through boxes, albums, loose sheets and junk in the dark and dirty basement of the Annex building. I ended up with about 18 unique collections (120 albums) for display. The Special Collections were recently moved upstairs to the President's office in the main building. I am now sorting stamps of two countries for the stock books.

I received my Mechanical Engineering degree from the University of Colorado. After 33 years working in the natural gas industry with Public Service Company (now Excel Energy), I started my own Engineering Consulting Company specializing in the design and field construction management of cross-country high pressure gas pipelines within six western states.

### BOARD MEMBER (NOMINEE)

#### **Charlie Freise - RMPL member since 2016.**



I have volunteered at the RMPL since 2016. I work with the CYPHER Stamp Club (Colorado Young Philatelic Explorers and Researchers), am the printing coordinator for society journals, editor of *Scribblings* and serve on the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show Committee representing Youth Programs. I was a member of the Aurora Stamp Club and Collectors Club of Denver until the clubs were disbanded in 2022.

I retired from the Army after 24 years of service and worked with the Aurora Police Department Records for a few years before retiring again. I have a Liberal Arts degree with focus in Anthropology and Archeology. My experiences introduced me to all manner of people and cultures providing for an interesting and varied life experience.

I began collecting stamps at the age of 12 and am a general worldwide collector. My "passion" is material related to the 1901 Pan-American Exposition (stamps, covers and ephemera). It is my belief I still have many years available, and perhaps an idea or two, to assist the RMPL.

# 2nd Annual Denver Stamp Club Auction

## A LIVE AUCTION

Presented by the Denver Stamp Club

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

RMPL Meeting Room

Auction lot viewing from 10:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Auction begins at 2:00 PM

This auction features 150 lots of stamps, collections, albums, miscellaneous philatelic material, philatelic literature and supplies.

**\* \* \* NO BUYERS PREMIUM \* \* \***

## ANNOUNCING TWO NEW RMPL VIDEO PRODUCTIONS

*by Sergio Lugo*

These are among the finest videos we (Joe Lanotte, Gary Withrow and myself) have managed to produce after a three-year hiatus due to COVID. We were unable to meet consistently, faced electrical and equipment break-downs and welcomed a third member to our team - Gary Withrow. Once we began working on new video productions, we realized our skills and proficiency had degraded. The learning curve hindered our attempts to integrate new production features and techniques while completing these two new projects.

**The Sindicato Condor Video: A presentation on the Sindicato Condor airline and related postal history of Brazil (Author: Sergio Lugo, Videographer: Gary Withrow).** The Sindicato Condor airline was a competitor to Pan American from 1927 - 1941. This is the third rendition of a presentation shown during the March 2023 American Air Mail Society ZOOM meeting. The original video was 90 minutes in length. It has been reduced to 58 minutes. The final version is available for viewing on the RMPL YouTube website and the RMPL website under "publications." The original 90-minute version is available on the AAMS YouTube website.



**The 1869 U.S. Pictorial Issue Video: A presentation by local area collector, Jerry Hager, focusing on the post-Civil War 1869 issues of the United States (Author and Narrator: Jerry Hager, Videographer: Gary Withrow).** The original presentation was reduced from 65 minutes to 45 minutes. The Wyoming Stamp Club, in Cheyenne, is credited with Jerry's presentation. The video is available for viewing on the RMPL YouTube website and the RMPL website under "publications." This video is highly recommended to all, whether a beginning or advanced collector.



We hope you enjoy these new videos and urge you to share and promote them with other collectors. We thank you for supporting the RMPL Video Production Team, Sergio Lugo, Joe Lanotte and Gary Withrow.



# Covering the World



## Flying Elephants Covers of India

by John H. Bloor

In the 1920s airmail was still new and there were many experimental and first flights taking place around the world. One of the earliest flights in India began on December 20, 1925. Six Royal Air Force (RAF) De Havilland DH9As left their base in Risalpur. On December 24<sup>th</sup> they arrived at Dum Dum aerodrome in Calcutta after stops at Ambala, Cawnpore, and Patna. Flying time was 18 hours for the approximately 1,270-mile flight. No mail was carried on this outbound flight.

On January 2, 1926, the six aircraft left Dum Dum (Calcutta) with 125 letters (69 for Patna, 51 for Risalpur and 5 for Rawalpindi). The cover in *figure 1* is one of those addressed to Patna.

The six planes were from the RAF 27<sup>th</sup> Squadron, known as the Flying Elephants. At the request of the RAF, Stephen H. Smith designed a photographic air-mail vignette/etiquette for the flight. Smith was a well-known philatelist who produced many labels, often for rocket mail flights within India. Smith usually signed these labels on the back with his name (obviously not visible on this cover). In this case, his initials also appear on the front of the label in the lower right. Two hundred etiquettes were prepared of

which 125 were used on flown covers.

It is the elephant etiquette that makes this cover interesting in addition to being an early Indian flight cover. Airmail etiquettes exist in many designs; there are thousands of them. In the catalog of worldwide airmail etiquettes, published in 1991 by Gunter Mair (available at the RMPL), there are more than 4,200 individual etiquettes of which about 700 are from the United States. Recently (2018) Mair updated the US section of the catalog. It now lists more than 4,500 individual etiquettes for the US. If you are interested in air mail and other etiquettes, consider joining the Postal Label Study Group; see their website at [Postal Label Study Group \(postal-label-study-group.info\)](http://Postal Label Study Group (postal-label-study-group.info)).

I need more covers! I have many of my own that I can use but it would be more interesting if some of our readers would send me ones that they like. Any cover could be interesting – tell me what you like about it.

That's all for this issue.

Bibliography: *Indian Air Mails*, by Jeffrey Brown (113 pages); published by the Indian Study Circle for Philately, 1995.



# Young Collectors Corner

by Charlie Freise



Visit [CYPHERStampClub.com](http://CYPHERStampClub.com) to learn more about stamp collecting.

## What is a commemorative stamp?

Commemorative stamps are issued on a special date to honor a specific place, person, thing or event. The subject of the stamp is often identified in print on the stamp. Commemorative stamps are printed in limited quantities over a short period of time and they can be used with other types of stamps. A collector is able to learn about the geography, wildlife, important people, events and history of a country by studying the stamps they issue.



Top - 1968 Chevrolet Camaro  
United States (2013)

Left - 1969 First Moon Landing  
United States (2019)



Dan Nieuwlandt shows Liam how to use the Scott US Specialized Catalog during a recent CYPHER Stamp Club meeting.

Liam was working on his US Airmail stamp collection. The CYPHER Stamp Club was able to help him fill quite a few empty spaces in his stock book. This is only possible due to the donations from collectors, clubs and Library members.

## Stamp Trivia

1. In 1966, Canada issued a single stamp for public safety. What is shown on the stamp?
2. France issued a nature protection stamp in 1979. What insect is shown on the stamp?
3. In 1974, the United States issued a stamp for the Legend of Sleepy Hollow. What character appears on this stamp?
4. What country was the first to issue a three-colored postage stamp?
5. What sport is the subject of a two-stamp set issued by Spain in 1980?

BONUS QUESTION:

The Swamp Fox of the Carolinas was honored on a 1982 United States Postcard. Who was he?

Answers to the Stamp Trivia questions are found on page 15.

# The Hidden Secrets of the One-Cent Large Bank Note Stamp (1870 - 1894)

by Charlie Freise

During the 1870s the Post Office issued contracts to three different security printing companies: the National Bank Note Company, the Continental Bank Note Company, and the American Bank Note Company. With multiple companies using the same stamp dies, different security measures and different paper types, collectors are faced with a challenge. If the stamps, printed by different companies, look the same how can you tell which one you have?

In 1870 the National Bank Note Company held the contract for printing postage stamps. They produced a series of 11 stamps ranging in value from 1¢ through 90¢. Each of the stamps featured the portrait of a past President or important government official.

In 1873 the Continental Bank Note Company took over the printing contract from the National Bank Note Company due to number of complaints about the quality of the printing. Continental took possession of some of the dies and printing plates. In order to tell who printed which stamps "secret marks" were added to the printing plates and dies.

In 1877 the United States Congress directed that all printing of notes and securities be transferred to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The Post Office continued to have postage stamps printed by private companies until 1894. The decision was a major blow to the security printing companies. In 1879, the National Bank Note Company, the Continental Bank Note Company, and the American Bank Note Company, merged under the name of The American Bank Note Company, and continued to print postage

stamps for the Post Office until 1894.

In addition to the secret marks added by the Continental Bank Note Company, the American Bank Note Company wanted to be able to tell which company printed which stamp. The company printed their stamps on a soft porous paper, reengraved some of the designs, and introduced changes to some of the colors used in the printing of the stamps.

There were a number of "special printings" made of these stamps and they are extremely rare. Many of the higher value "grilled stamps" are also extremely rare and quite valuable. When going through your stamp collection, as well as accumulations, always take the time to check for grills on the Bank Note issues.

Below are images, with the Scott catalog numbers, of the six different types of the 1¢ stamp printed by the three different companies. The easiest stamps to identify are Scott #134, as it has a security "grill," and Scott #212 as the design is different from all the other stamps.

*To determine if your stamp is printed on hard, or soft paper, compare it to similar stamps. Scott #65, a very common 3¢ Washington stamp, is printed on hard paper. Scott #231, the common 2¢ Columbian stamp is printed on soft porous paper.*



Row 1, left to right:

Scott #134, National Bank Note  
Scott #145, National Bank Note  
Scott #156, Continental Bank Note



Row 2, left to right:

Scott #182, Continental and  
American Bank Note  
Scott #206, American Bank Note  
Scott #212, American Bank Note

continued on page 14

continued from page 13

Scott #134 - printed by the National Bank Note Company. This issue is grilled without a secret mark.

Scott #145 - printed by the National Bank Note Company. This issue does not have a grill or secret mark.

Scott #156 - printed by the Continental Bank Note Company. This issue has a secret mark added to the ornament to the left of the number "1" and was printed on hard, white, paper.

Scott #182 - printed by the Continental Bank Note Company and the American Bank Note Company. The secret mark is found on both types of stamps. The Continental printing is on hard paper, the American printing is on soft, porous, paper.

Scott #206 - printed and reengraved by the American Bank Note Company on soft paper. An additional secret mark is found in the small frame ornament above the "US" at the top of the stamp design.

Scott #212 - printed by the American Bank Note Company. This stamp is easily identifiable as the design is different from all other 1¢ stamps.



Scott #134 with grill or Scott #145 without grill and no secret mark.



Scott #156 with a "dash" secret mark found in the ornament to the left of the number "1."



Scott #134, 145, 156 and 182, without secret mark in the ornament above "US."



Scott #206 with the addition of a new crescent secret mark in the ornament above "US."

## 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, aurora\_80017@yahoo.com, if you are interested in presenting a program.*

**November 11, 2023 - 9:00 AM**

**Presenter: Ravi Vora**

**"US Consular Services and Its Stamps:  
An Overview"**

This well-received program was presented at the Spellman Museum on September 21, 2023. It provides an introduction to the Consular Services pre-stamp period, revenue stamps (1906 - 1954), proofs, essays, consular documents and foreign frankings.



**December 9, 2023 - 9:00 AM**

**Presenter: Steve McGill**

**"Queen Elizabeth  
Philatelic Retrospective"**

This presentation will focus on the developments within British stamp evolution during the reign of Queen Elizabeth II. The evolutionary nature of United Kingdom stamps is viewed through the changes in definitive stamp artistic design and the technical advances made to create a "Stamp Identity" that would enable automated letter processing equipment to function. The Queen's reign coincided with many profound letter processing developments with her stamps at the forefront.



## NOTES FROM THE LIBRARIAN

The shelves are easier to read now. We've had volunteers picking out the books whose titles cannot be read. They're placing the titles on the spines of books so that our patrons can find what they're looking for. The shelves are beautiful now.

We have begun an inventory of the library. Some books are missing in our card catalog, but on the shelves, and some are in the card catalog, but missing from the shelves We'll set it all straight soon.

Our stamp sales area has expanded. We've received more and more stamps that we're able to sell to our members. We have worldwide and U.S. stamps, covers, topicals, cinderellas, and postcards; something for everyone. Come on down and check it out. Check out a book while you're here.

Book donations are slowing down. If you have some books that you've always wanted to place in a permanent home, now is the time to donate them to the RMPL. We promise to take good care of them and you can visit them whenever you like.

Sherry Soraci-Jennings  
Librarian

## NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Yes, it is that time again. The Library will hold its triennial election for Officers and Board members. In this issue you will find biographical information on each incumbent and nominee along with a ballot. Please take the time to complete the ballot. You may mail your ballot to the Library or drop it off in person.

There is a new feature in this issue, the "Young Collectors Corner." There has been a growing call to find ways to introduce young people to stamp collecting. I hope this is a step in the right direction.

On August 26th the Library celebrated its 30th anniversary with an open house event. More than 100 members were in attendance. It was a great opportunity to get reacquainted with friends from the philatelic community.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the upcoming 2nd Annual Denver Stamp Club auction, November 29, 2023. Come on out to the RMPL and support the hobby. Better yet, while attending the auction why not join the club?

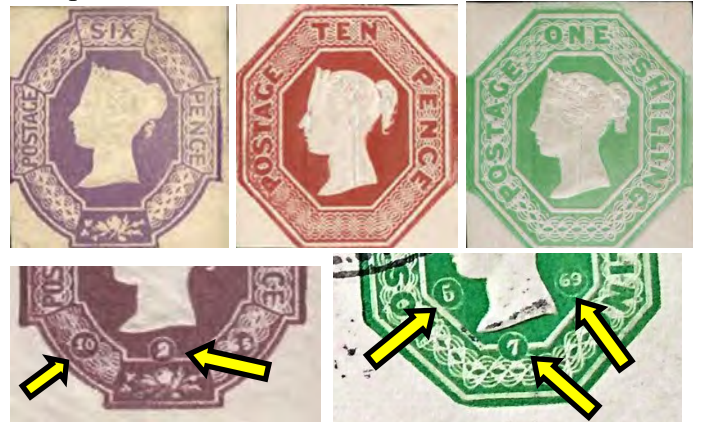
On a final note, I hope everyone has a very happy holiday season. Take every opportunity to spend time with family and friends. I wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Charlie Freise  
Editor

## The First Embossed Postage Stamps

by Charlie Freise

Great Britain issued the world's first embossed postage stamps. The 1/- value was released on September 11, 1847. Two additional values, the 6p and 10p stamps were issued in 1848 and 1854.



Postal stationery showing numbers in the design.

These high-value stamps were printed at Somerset House and used to pay foreign postage rates. The image of Queen Victoria was created by cutting the image into the plate and impressing the paper onto the plate. This printing method was time consuming and only one stamp could be printed at a time. Images often overlapped and four margin examples are very difficult to find. Examples with two or three clear margins are affordable but may cost hundreds of dollars.

The stamps are nearly identical to the postal stationery used at the time. Most postal stationery pieces have clearly visible numbers in the design, the postage stamps do not.

The 6p stamps have a "VR" watermark in sans-serif letters that are spaced widely apart. The 10p and 1/- stamps have a pair of silk threads running through them. The threads are usually 5mm apart, however many times the threads were misplaced and spacing differs from stamp to stamp.

Many of the stamps were cut to shape by those who did not know better. A collector has to be careful and avoid stamps that are re-backed and had margins added after the fact. These altered stamps are easily confused with genuine examples.

### Answers to the Young Collectors Corner trivia questions:

1. Traffic signs
2. Honey Bee
3. The Headless Horseman
4. Switzerland
5. Soccer

### BONUS QUESTION:

General Francis Marion (aka The Swamp Fox)

# New Publications for our Members

## UNITED STATES

***MS Gripsholm and the US-Japan Diplomatic Exchanges in World War II: A Postal History***, by Louis Fiset

***Rocky Mountain Express Companies: 1859-1869***, by David F. New

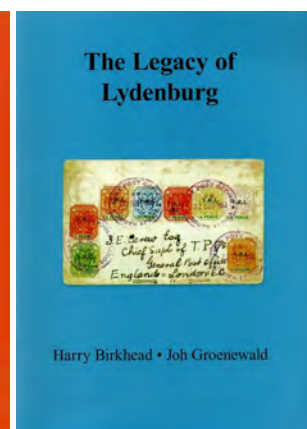
***USA Specialized Checklist: Postal Counterfeits 1999 - Present***, by Hans van Gils

## EUROPE

***Anglo-Boer War Stamp Souvenirs: Kuruman Besieged, Vryburg VR Special Post, Zeerust Revenues***, by Harry Birkhead

***Bypost of Norway (Exhibit)***, by Greg Frantz

***Catalogo dei Francobolli d'Italia, Trieste, Vaticano, San Marino***



## ASIA

***Japan Concordance***

***Republic of China Commodity Tax Inspection Stamps***, by Randall E. Burt

## EUROPE

***The History of the Principality (Monaco) as Seen Through its Postage Stamps***, by H. Chiavassa

***The Legacy of Lydenburg***, by Harry Birkhead



# New Publications for our Members

## EUROPE (Continued)

*L'Occupazione Francese del Fezzan Nella Libia Italiana (The French Military Occupation of the Fezzan Region in Italian Libya)*, di Mario e Toni Caldiron

*Die Machadodorp-Briefkaarte van die Anglo-Boereoorlog*, by Gerrit H. Jonkers

*Malta Registered*

*Marche da Bollo d'Italia 1863-1957 e Delle Colonie Italiane d'Africa 1911-1943: Trattato Storico Sugli Usi Postali e Fiscali, Catalogo con Valutazioni (Postmarks of Italy 1863-1957 and Italian Colonies of Africa 1911-1943)*, by Fortunato Marchetto

*The Pseudo-Siege of Schweizer-Reneke*, by Harry Birkhead

*The Riddle of Rustenburg*, by Harry Birkhead

*R.S.I. 1943-1945, Catalogo Degli Annulli RP PAGATO RR POSTE TS Usati Come Sostituti di Affrancatura: Veneto - Trentino V.G. - Abruzzi - Lazio - Marche - Toscana - Limeria*, di Antonio A. Piga

*Die Vryburg-Seëls Van die Anglo-Boereoorlog*, by Joh Groenewald

*Waffen-SS Feldpost Numbers and Order of Battle*

*The Wherewithal of Wolmaransstad*, by Harry Birkhead

## NORTH AMERICA

*Under Three Flags: The Postal History of Spanish-Cuban/American War (1895-1898)*, by Yamil H. Kouri

## MISCELLANEOUS

*Flags of the United Nations, 1983: Their Origins and Meanings*, by Whitney Smith

*Know Your Stamps*, by Frank Aretz

*The Postal History of the Universal Postal Union, The Postal Card Worldwide, 1869 - 1974*, by James Peter Gough

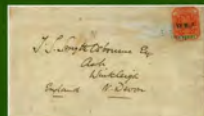
*Telegraph and Telephone Stamps of the World: A Priced and Annotated Catalogue*, by S. E. R. Hiscocks

*The Winton M. Blount Postal History Symposia: Select Papers, 2010-2011*

*The Tenth Winton M. Blount Postal History Symposium: World War I and its Immediate Aftermath, Select Papers*

*The Winton M. Blount Postal History Symposia: Select Papers From the Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Symposia*

The Pseudo-Siege of  
Schweizer-Reneke



Harry Birkhead • Joh Groenewald

Die Vryburg-seëls  
van die  
Anglo-Boereoorlog



Joh Groenewald

The Riddle of  
Rustenburg



Harry Birkhead • Joh Groenewald



Barbados • Brazil • Bulgaria  
Byelorussian SSR • Canada • China • Israel  
Jamaica • Kenya • Malawi • Nepal • Peru  
Senegal • Somalia • Sweden • United Kingdom

TELEGRAPH  
&  
TELEPHONE  
STAMPS OF THE WORLD  
A PRICED AND ANNOTATED  
CATALOGUE



S. E. R. Hiscocks  
1982

# RMPL Board of Directors Meeting

## Board of Directors Meeting September 21, 2023

Board Members Present: Tonny Von Loij, Jim Kilbane, Rich Palestro, Eric Carlson, Steve Schweighofer, Gary Withrow, Paul and Regina Domenici. Visitors: Alex Papp and Ken Luke  
Absent: Rod Haenni and Bill Douglass

Meeting called to order at 3:53 PM

### Old Business

**Treasurer (Bill Douglas):** As Bill was absent, there was a general discussion of the financial statements for the 2022 end of year (EOY) as well as the 2023 year to date. Questions regarding 2022 EOY investment losses prompted the recommendation for the treasurer to meet with RMPL financial committee now and then at least quarterly for investment review and planning. A special Board session may be needed for final approval of 2022 financials.

**2024 Special Delivery of Dreams Scholarship Committee (Gary Withrow, Regina Domenici and Rich Palestro): Report by Gary:** The scholarship committee has reviewed the current 113 applicants. Hoping to generate some Colorado candidates, Gary will send information about the scholarship to local trade schools.

**Follow up on the approved purchase of automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) (Regina Domenici):** Since AEDs and training would cost around \$4000, the Board passed a motion to defer AED purchase and provide no cost CPR training to any of the volunteers interested. Additionally, Steve will post large signs with pertinent emergency phone numbers in both buildings.

**2024 Board of Directors election (Tonny Van Loij):** Three additional candidates have entered the race for board positions. Biographies and photos will be in the Nov-Dec. issue of *Scribblings*. The election is scheduled for January 2024.

**Follow up on Paul Lee's "Parks, Postmarks and Postmasters" revised book publication (Jim Kilbane):** Background: The option to reprint a hard-bound copy of the revised edition is cost prohibitive. Jim reported he is investigating the cost of reprinting the revised book in soft-cover format.

**RMPL's 30th-anniversary open house (Paul Domenici):** The anniversary celebration was enjoyed by

107 guests. This is the largest number of guests attending a Library celebration in the history of the RMPL. Congratulations to "Outstanding Volunteer Award" winners Joe Lanotte and Dasa Metzler. Thank you to all who made the party successful.

**Declining membership/recruiting brainstorming (Paul Domenici):** Ideas discussed:

1) Paul will send a trial advertisement for placement into local retirement community newsletters.

2) Gary will investigate putting information in youth magazines.

3) Eric will contact *Linn's Stamp News* and explore the value of advertising based on the ages of *Linn's* subscribers.

**Budget for replacing Air Conditioning units (Steve Schweighofer):** Background: The upcoming budget should include money to replace the 25-year-old AC units in 2038. Steve reports the recommendation from HVAC specialists is to replace the 2 units with 2 new units rather than one large one. Motion approved to move \$25,000 into a capital improvement fund which will make the money available when needed.

### New Business

**RMPL website update (Gary Withrow):** Some clubs are requesting an additional page on the RMPL website to list club specific resources. The club links will be available on the RMPL website and monitored by Gary and Joe.

**October live auction (Paul Domenici and Gary Withrow):** Listings and bidding for the 272 lots are now available on the auction website.

**Increasing the number of directors on the board (Regina Domenici):** A proposal to amend the bylaws increasing the number of Board directors from 4 to 6 was discussed. Because of the close proximity of upcoming elections, the motion was not approved. In the future, the Board will discuss the idea of increasing the number of directors by staggering election years. This would preserve continuity of leadership while adding electees with new ideas.

Meeting adjourned at 5:46 PM.

Next meeting is November 16, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Domenici  
Recording Secretary

## DONATIONS

The library thrives on the enthusiasm and generosity of its members. The following societies, clubs, and individuals made donations to the Library since the last donation listing. These donations were made from July 19, 2023 through September 19, 2023. Thank you!

### SOCIETY AND CLUB DONATIONS

Colorado Postal History Society  
Smithsonian National Postal Museum

### INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Herman Axelrod	Donald Evans	Clayton Lewis	Ronald Nicholas
Alice Baron	Judith Ewertz	Richard Linde	Alexander Papp
Rick Baker	Pledgeling Foundation	Greg Lunsford	Tom Pool
William Blankenmeier	Joseph Gschwendtner	Patricia Mahoney	James Reichman
John Bloor	Holly Hoag	Will Mahoney	Penelope Schwind
Larry Bonura	Mark Hoskinson	Steve McGill	Travis Searles
Elizabeth Byrne	John Hughes	Dasa Metzler	Martin Severe
Ernesto Cuesta	Susan Janselow	Robert Miller	Marc Silberman
Joanne Curran	Tom Jurek	David Moore	A. F. Siraa, MD.
Mary Deal	Michael Kluherz	Douglas Moore	Beverly Smith
Sue Dunn	Carolyn Larrabee	Alethia Morgan	Ludvik Svoboda
David Duran	Kathleen Laub	Ronda Morton	Jack Van Ens
James Ehernberger	Troy Leist	Susan Murin-Chavez	Sandra Wainer

## NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to new members who have joined the library from May 22, 2023, through September 13, 2023.

Mike Aswad	Katie Jones	Paul Presta
Adam Benjamin	Cyndi Kennedy	Enrique Setaro
Larry Bonilla	Jack Kitch	Kurt Schau
Ember Brennan	William Kitch	Scott Smith
Edward Champoux	Douglas Kurtz	Sean Stevenson
Rita Cook	Troy Leist	James Taff
James Cruz	Dick Lloyd	Olivia Villanueva
Darrell Ertzberger	Robert Lokart	Sebastian Villanueva
David Fry	Larry Martin	Raymond Vreeland
Nathan Gardner	Frank O'Brien	Mary Whittman-Montoya
Ralph Gilcreest	Michael Paradise	Eliot Wong
Richard Hale	Alexander Porter	Yarden Yarkoni
Theo Herrera	Grace Porter	
Michael Hillebrecht	Preston Porter	

**Please Note:** New members and membership renewals received after September 13, 2023, will be acknowledged in the next issue of *Scribblings*. Due to unexpected circumstances many of the individuals who joined during the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show were not included in the last issue, their names appear in this issue.

# Scheduled Library Events



The RMPL Operations Manager, Steve Schweighofer, maintains a calendar of reserved club times. Clubs should check the calendar regularly and notify Steve ([steve.schweighofer@comcast.net](mailto:steve.schweighofer@comcast.net)) of any updates or changes. Requests to reserve meeting space and time for philatelically related meetings other than those listed here must be approved and scheduled with Steve well in advance. Call the Library or the appropriate club to confirm the place and time.

**Hours of Operation:**  
 Mon - Sat: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
 Thu: 5:00 - 8:00 PM  
 Closed Sundays and Holidays  
 Phone: (303) 759-9921  
 Email: [rmpldenverco@gmail.com](mailto:rmpldenverco@gmail.com)

## \*\*\*NOVEMBER 2023\*\*\*

**Nov 4 Sat** - meeting 10 AM  
 Scandinavian Collectors Club  
**Nov 4 Sat** - meeting 1 PM  
 Topical Philatelists In Colorado (TOPIC)  
**Nov 8 Wed** - meeting 7 PM  
 Denver Germany Stamp Club  
**Nov 9 Thu** - meeting 2 PM  
 Cherrelyn Stamp Club

**Nov 11 Sat - 9AM**  
**Second Saturday at the RMPL**  
 Presenter: Ravi Vora  
*"US Consular Services and Its Stamps: An Overview"*

**Nov 11 Sat** - meeting 10:30 AM  
 Mexico/Latin America Club  
**Nov 12 Sun** - meeting 1 PM  
 Denver Postcard Club  
**Nov 16 Thu** - meeting 4 PM  
 RMPL Board Meeting (visitors welcome)  
**Nov 18 Sat** - meeting 9:30 AM  
 CYPHER Stamp Club  
**Nov 18 Sat** - meeting 1 PM  
 Colorado Postal History Society  
**Nov 19 Sun** - meeting 1 PM  
 Great Britain Collectors' Club  
**Nov 23 Thu** - Closed for Thanksgiving  
**Nov 29 Wed** - auction 2 PM  
 Denver Stamp Club  
 Lot Viewing 10 AM - 2 PM

## \*\*\*DECEMBER 2023\*\*\*

**Dec 2 Sat** - meeting 10 AM  
 Scandinavian Collectors Club  
**Dec 2 Sat** - meeting 1 PM  
 Topical Philatelists In Colorado (TOPIC)

**Dec 9 Sat - 9 AM**  
**Second Saturday at the RMPL**  
 Presenter: Steve McGill  
*"Queen Elizabeth Philatelic Retrospective"*

**Dec 9 Sat** - meeting 10:30 AM  
 Mexico/Latin America Club  
**Dec 9 Sat** - meeting 12:30 PM  
 Rocky Mountain Aero and Astrophilatelic Club  
**Dec 10 Sun** - meeting 1 PM  
 Denver Postcard Club  
**Dec 13 Wed** - meeting 7 PM  
 Denver Germany Stamp Club  
**Dec 14 Thu** - meeting 2 PM  
 Cherrelyn Stamp Club  
**Dec 16 Sat** - meeting 9:30 AM  
 CYPHER Stamp Club  
**Dec 17 Sun** - 1 PM  
 Great Britain Collectors' Club  
**Dec 25 Mon** - Closed for Christmas  
**Dec 27 Wed** - 2 PM  
 Denver Stamp Club  
**Jan 1 Mon** - Closed for New Years Day

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR !

**November 23, 2023 - Closed for Thanksgiving**  
**November 29, 2023 - 2nd Annual Denver Stamp Club Auction**  
**December 25, 2023 - Closed for Christmas Day**  
**January 1, 2024 - Closed for New Years Day**  
**February 24, 2024 - 6th Annual RMPL Country, Cover, Postcard Auction**