Scribblings



--- from the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library

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September - October 1998 E-Mail - RMPL@aol.com

WHATS HAPPENING at the RMPL

"come and enjoy the activities"

SEPTEMBER 1998

Mondays: September 14, 21, 28 Open 10-4 Tuesdays: September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Open 10-4 Wednesdays: September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Open 10-4 Thursdays: September 3, 10, 17, 24 Open 2-8 Saturdays: September 5, 12, 19, 26 Open 10-4

September 2 - Meeting - 7:30 PM Aurora Stamp Club

September 7 - RMPL Closed - Labor Day

September 9 - Meeting - 7:30 PM
Denver Germany Stamp Club
September 10 - Meeting - 7:30 PM
TOpical Philatelists In Colorado

September 12 & 13 - APEX at Buckingham Mall

September 12 - Meeting - 10:00 AM Scandinavian Collectors Club

September 12 - Second Saturday at RMPL

- see September 19th

September 12 - Meeting - 2:00 PM
Universal Ship Cancellation Society
U.S.S. Colorado Chapter

September 19 - Second Saturday at RMPL

9:00 AM Program by Sergio Lugo "Foreign Airmail Contracts to South America"

September 21 - Meeting - 7:30 PM
Stamp Trading Night Open Trading (and Selling) Sponsored by Aurora Stamp Club

September 22 - Meeting - 7:30 PM ROMPEX Committee

September 26 - Meeting - 2:00 PM China Stamp Society

OCTOBER 1998

Mondays: October 5, 12, 19, 26 Open 10-4
Tuesdays: October 6, 13, 20, 27 Open 10-4
Wednesdays: October 7, 14, 21, 28 Open 10-4
Thursdays: October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Open 2-8
Saturdays: October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Open 10-4
October 3 - TRIP TO MAIL CENTER

October 3 - Meeting - 10:00 AM
Scandinavian Collectors Club

October 3 - Meeting - 1:00 PM
Rocky Mountain Aerophilatelists

October 7 - Meeting - 7:30 PM Aurora Stamp Club

October 8 - Meeting - 7:30 PM
TOpical Philatelists In Colorado

October 10 - UFO'S

"Unidentified Philatelic Objects"

October 10 - Second Saturday at RMPL - 9:00 AM Program by George Snyder

"Confederate Postal History" October 10 - Meeting - 2:00 PM

Universal Ship Cancellation Society U.S.S.

Colorado Chapter at Collard History Museum

>>>>this month only<

October 17 - IS IT WORTH ANYTHING

October 19 - Meeting - 7:30 PM
Stamp Night Open Trading (and Selling)
Sponsored by Aurora Stamp Club

October 24 - Kids Day at the RMPL
October 24 - Meeting - 2:00 PM
China Stamp Society

October 27 - Meeting - 7:30 PM ROMPEX Committee

October 31 - BOOOO - "Philatelic Murder"

Stamp Collecting Month at the RMPL will be full of special activities every Saturday in October.

>>>>>SEE THE ACTIVITY LIST BELOW<

by Ron Mitchell

TRIP TO MAIL CENTER

Here's your chance to see the mail factory where first class and priority mail is handled. The USPS will give a guided tour of its huge General Mail Facility on Saturday morning, October 3rd. We will be able to see the secrets behind how the USPS sorts millions of pieces of mail on a daily basis.

Anyone who is interested in the tour is welcome. You may bring as many guests as you like. We'll meet at the library at 10:15 and carpool to the facility. The tour will last about an hour and we'll return

to the library by 12:30.

CONFEDERATE POSTAL HISTORY

One of the RMPL's most active volunteers, George Snyder, has been collecting the Confederate States of America more than 60 years. He has prepared a program on CSA postal history for presentation at 9:00 am October 10. This will be October's regular "Second Saturday" program at the library, and it will be the first of two special activities that day. UFO's - "Unidentified Filatelic Object"

Every collector has an "Unidentified Filatelic Object"

or two in his or her albums.

From 10:00 to noon on October 10, a team of experts will be available to answer questions about "UFOs" or any other aspect of philately. Bill Dunn, Joe Weinman and Jack Willard will identify US and worldwide stamps to the best of their considerable abilities.

Bring your troublesome US Bank Notes and Washington-Franklins and watch Bill, Joe and Jack go to work.

IS IT WORTH ANYTHING?

Many non collectors have an old stamp collection they haven't dug out in years that may have some value. It may have been inherited, or perhaps left over from childhood.

Experts will be on hand Saturday, October 17 to look at any collection and give a general idea of whether it may be worth something in the philatelic marketplace.

If you know someone with such a collection, invite

them to bring it to the library.

This will be "Community Day" at the RMPL and your non-collecting friends are especially welcome. It's a good place to explain why you love your hobby.

KID'S DAY

The second annual "Kid's Day" will be Saturday, October 24. The library will host a mini-course on stamp collecting for kids, including hands on demonstrations and free stamps and books. If a session from 10:00-noon fills up, we will have a second session from 1:00-3:00.

Pre-registration is required. Call the library during regular hours to sign up your favorite youngsters.

Anytime kids come to the library they seem to have a wonderful time. Make sure your favorite young people attend.

B0000!!!!

"Philately and Murder" will be featured on Halloween day, Saturday, October 31.

A photocopy of the award winning exhibit by Charles Fitz will be on display for visitors to the library.

At press time, we're trying to get copies of as many as nine other important national exhibits not normally shown in this part of the country.

The long term objective is to build up a full-fledged

library of exhibits for viewing year-round.

Extra effort is going into making all five Saturdays in October fun for stamp collectors at the RMPL. Mark your calendar now to makes plans to take part.

RMPL AT APEX '98

The RMPL has purchased a table at APEX, the annual philatelic exhibition and bourse sponsored by the Aurora Stamp Club. APEX will be held on Saturday Sunday, September 12th and 13th. Buckingham Square Shopping Center in Aurora. will have some of our surplus books for sale as well as some of the philatelic material which has been donated and remainders from our silent auctions. proceeds will help to pay the bills of the library. Stop by and see if you can find something you need - or just to say hello.

BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION (Part V)

by Mathew P. Zieringer

Attorney at Law - RMPL Member

The holding of property in joint tenancy between husband and wife may be convenient when total family assets are less than that amount which requires reporting to the government under Federal Estate Tax Regulations, currently \$650,000. In such a small estate, it may be theoretically possible for the couple to leave the estate to the surviving spouse without the necessity of having a will. By holding title to their assets in joint tenancy with right of survivorship, the assets pass to the spouse via that right recognized in Colorado. However, thought should be given to the event of a common disaster in which neither husband nor wife survive. Without a will, the assets will be distributed under provisions of Colorado law which may not be in accordance with their intentions, especially if there are surviving children since in a will the parents may name their preferences as to guardians, conservators, and/or custodians rather than the court delegating these tasks. The will can also establish trusts for the children.

A joint tenancy is a joint interest owned by two or more persons in generally equal shares where it is expressly declared that the title is held in joint tenancy. It is probably the simplest way of avoiding probate, but as will be seen, this form of title holding has numerous disadvantages. Outside of creation of joint tenancy ownership between spouses, a taxable gift may occur unless each joint tenant contributes equally. Additionally there are other reasons why joint tenancy may be inappropriate from an estate planning viewpoint.

First, such property cannot be passed by the will of the joint owner dying first. Circumstances may change and either owner may wish to leave the asset to someone else, or either owner during their lifetime may dissolve the joint tenancy. Second, from an income tax point of view, joint tenancy property at death only receives an adjusted basis to the percentage of ownership held by the decedent. Third, such ownership limits post mortem planning especially in larger estates. Fourth, the property may be subject to attack from creditors of an individual joint owner.

Tenants in common differs from joint tenancy ownership and should not be confused – it is easy to do. In joint tenancy, you and your spouse both own the whole house, which among other things means you must both agree to sell it. In tenants in common, on the other hand, you each own a half share of the house and either of you can sell your share without the consent of the other. Further, if you own an asset in joint tenancy with anyone and you die, ownership of that asset passes to the other joint tenant automatically. Tenants in common, your share passes as provided in will or trust with possible probate and other consequences.

Life estates are a different vehicle of estate planning. An older couple may choose to assign the family home to children who have expressed an interest in living there after the parents have died. The parents retain what is referred to as a life estate interest in the house meaning that they have a right to live there until they die, and then the property reverts Another method is to leave the to the children. children a life estate in family property. The children can use or rent it but are responsible for it being kept in good condition. Upon the children's death, the property can pass to grandchildren. Transferring property via life estates is subject to complex legal and possibly tax rules and often may create more complications than wanted. Check with your attorney and seek his/her assistance.

RMPL ARTICLE IN LINN'S

The RMPL received a nice write-up in the July 13, 1998 issue of Linn's Stamp News. This was written by Rich Wolff who visited the library during ROMPEX. He thought the library was nice, but what intrigued him was how we accomplished all that was necessary to make it a reality so that was the main thrust of the story. Since the publication, we have had many requests for further information, membership applications, and letters offering materials. All of these are most welcome. We take this opportunity to thank Rich and Linn's for such a good write-up.

In case you didn't see the article, a photocopy is

available for a SASE at the library address.

Positive articles about the RMPL have appeared in the Bay Philatelist, the publication of the Western Philatelic Library in Sunnyvale. CA and in the Philatelic Exhibitor, the publication of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors. We thank them for being willing to promote our endeavor.

NEW LOOK AT RMPL

If you haven't been to the library recently you will be greatly surprised at the appearance of the exterior of the building. Ever since we acquired the building we knew it needed some exterior repairs as well as painting. The Board of the RMPL decided that we could not wait through another winter without repairs so we "bit-the-bullet". We are most pleased at the appearance now and hope that you will like the result, also.

The parking lot comes next - but we are not sure we can afford this -any ideas on how to pay for it???

RMPL SECOND SATURDAY PROGRAMS

Some of you who are reasonably new to the RMPL may not be familiar with our Second Saturday at the RMPL programs so we will explain what we do. On the second Saturday of each month we ask a prominent local philatelist to give an informative program on his field of expertise. These start at 9:00 AM - before most weekend activities start - and last no longer than one hour. The attendance at these programs varies but generally has been growing over the last year. Naturally the coffee pot will be on and sometimes there may also be appropriate goodies available.

We think that this is an excellent opportunity to broaden ones philatelic awareness so we urge all members to make an attempt to attend - and bring a

philatelic friend.

Because of the stamp show, APEX, being held at Buckingham Square Mall, the Second Saturday at the RMPL program normally scheduled for September 12th will be given on September 19th at 9:00 AM. Sergio Lugo will do the program and the subject will be "Foreign Airmail Contracts to South America".

The program for October 10th will be given by George Snyder on the subject of "Confederate Postal

History".

Don't those sound interesting? We are looking for programs for future months. Any suggestions?

DONATIONS - DONATIONS - DONATIONS

Christmas came early to the RMPL. As a result of or most recent wish list we received as donations 2 computers. One member who doesn't look at all like Santa Claus, and who wishes to remain anonymous purchased a brand new Hewlitt Packard Pavilion computer with lots of other goodies for the library. This will allow the RMPL to switch to an automated card catalog using the same program as the Western Philatelic Library and a similar program to the one used at the American Philatelic Research Library. Mitch Mather donated a Tandy computer with accessories, also. Both of these gifts are most greatly appreciated and will be put to use.

As a result of the write-up in the recent Linn's we received a very nice check from the Collectors Club of Chicago. This was certainly unexpected, but very welcome.

The donations to the RMPL of philatelic literature and philatelic material of all kinds continue. Hardly a day goes by that the RMPL doesn't receive some sort of donation and all too often material just seems to appear on the counter or table and we don't know who donated it. It is all appreciated. Recent donors include: B. B. Boatman, Jim Davenport, Chris Lennox, Colleen Sawyer, Dalene Thomas, Blain, Thomas, Paul Hodapp, Mort Turner, Gen. Conrad L. Bush, Mike Maselli, Jack Willard, Brinton Butler, Charles F. Myers, Bill Hilbert, Tom Pollard, Scott Smith, Sherwood Springer, David Kent, Jeff Shapiro, Logan Blackwell, Ukranian Philatelic Resources, Carl Anderson, Jim Peterson, Bob Brown, Art Weaver, Kitty Wentworth, Dr. Joan Grady, Frank Fernandez, Carl Schauer, Dr. Peter Gysin, Dr. John Allen, Glen Johnson, Don Beuthel, and Charles Syvret. We thank all of you for your willingness to share and your generosity.

The RMPL has a 501 (c)(3) Public Charity status with the IRS which means that the fair market value of your donation may be deductible from your income tax. We try to send each donor a letter acknowledging receipt of the material. If you have made a donation and have not received this letter please contact us and we will reply.

NEW RMPL MEMBERS

We are always pleased that area philatelists make the choice to join our library. We know that there are many collectors out there who still may not even know that we exist. Please help us spread the word and if possible bring a philatelic friend to the library to see first hand what we have to offer. In almost every case, once a visitor sees the library and what has been done, it is an easy job to sign then up as a member. We are holding our own - losing a few members when it comes time to renew - and gaining a few each month. We would like to have our membership grow since the dues are the backbone of our financial picture. Wouldn't it be nice to go over the 300 mark by the end of the year. We can do this with your help!

New members during the past two months include

the following:

Robert M. Anderson David G. Bosley Elie Machacne Daniel Meschter Stan Oliner Bill Schaefer Michael A Bass Roy Wm Hall, Jr Lester A. Meis Gordon C. Morrison Gary L. Rogers K. Glenn Shaw

Viggo Warmboe

Some of you will be receiving a first, second, or third renewal notice with this issue of the Scribblings. After the third notice members are moved to the inactive list and will no longer receive the Scribblings and other membership benefits. We hope that each of you will respond quickly and generously. Members who have renewed in the past two months should receive a membership card with this mailing.

RMPL LIBRARIAN FEATURED AS PANELIST

At the National Topical Stamp Show held in Falls Church, VA in the middle of July, a Library Symposium was one of the featured educational meetings. The panel of librarians included Tim Carr from the Postal Museum Library (Smithsonian) in Washington, D.C., Gini Horn from the American Philatelic Research Library in State College, PA, and Ellengail Beuthel, from the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library. Each Librarian discussed their library and how it operated as well as how they can be utilized by philatelists. The symposium was well attended and we can expect to get further publicity with the publication of reports on the meeting.

Including this write-up may be another way of patting ourselves on the back, but we feel greatly honored to have had the opportunity to have Ellengail participate and we do like to recognize the contributions she has made toward the success of the RMPL. Each opportunity such as this helps to spread the word that the RMPL does exist, that we are serious about our library, and that we are approaching

the major library status.

A LETTER TO THE RMPL BOARD

It is not often the Board of Directors gets a letter from one of our members, but recently we received a letter from Tim Bartsche that gives us great satisfaction. We would like to share it with you.

"Board of Directors", RMPL Attention: Don Beuthel

Dear Don,

I wanted to take the time to thank you in writing for the wonderful job you and the rest of the volunteers are doing in maintaining and upgrading the RMPL. My first trip out to the site was nearly two years ago for a meeting of the ROMPEX Committee. My impression was 'What a nice idea, but they would not have what I need, seeing as how my collecting interests are so on the fringe.' What a surprise I was in for! Over the past seven months, I have had the occasion or should I say need to put your library to a real test of resources. By the end of August, I will have judged, as an Apprentice APS Judge, over 200 different exhibits and 1200 frames at four shows. As one might imagine, the subjects have ranged from Rattlesnake Island Locals to Afghanistan primitives of 1920. For all o the diverse subjects I viewed, very few were unable to be referenced from within your stacks. The really difficult, eclectic and arcane subjects were ultimately referenced from the APRL. Imagine the ease attained by eliminating the huge costs of mailings along with the weeks delay, when a simple 20 minute drive and heck out sufficed for over 80% of my needs.

Over the past two years, I have come to know and respect all of you on the Board. My thanks to all who have helped energize my interest in organized philately, especially in helping me expand my philatelic knowledge through becoming an APS Judge. Without the Library, I don't know that I could have done it. I do know it would not have been as easy or as much fun."

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Tim Bartche

Thank you, Tim, for taking the time to write such a nice letter. It helps to keep us going knowing that the library is being used, and is appreciated. I do hope that the rest of our members and patrons will pardon us for publicly patting ourselves on the back by publishing Tim's letter, but I think that all who work as Volunteers, all who have donated material for the Library, all who have made monetary contributions to support the Library, and all who have helped make the RMPL what it is today, should take great pride in the fact that together we have worked a minor miracle to create this useful addition to the hobby of philately. Our original idea was that, "if we share what we have, all will benefit greatly" - and I think it is working!

Useful Tools

by Jack Willard, Founder, Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library

any useful tools may be found in the Postal History Room at the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library. Let's use the cover shown in Figure 1 and see what can be learned.

According to the neatly printed corner card our subject letter was mailed in Norfolk, Connecticut. The postmark provides the date, June 13, 1916.

You want to know more about Train #12 and the railroad it ran on. The library shelves can supply a 1916 edition of "The Official Guide of the Railways and Steam Navigation Lines of the United States." If you look up Norfolk, Connecticut in the index you will find it is served by the Central New England Railway. If you then look up the railway you will find the

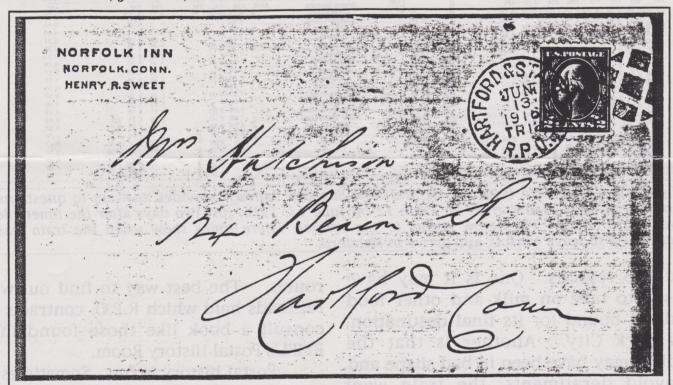


Figure 1. A cover like this one that is very simple in appearance can provide a wealth of information to stamp collectors who are interested in postal history.

The letter is addressed to Hartford, Connecticut. How will it get there?

The postmark also tells us the envelope was picked up, probably from a letter box on the Norfolk Railroad Station platform, by a railway mail clerk from Train #12, Hartford & State Line R.P.O. (Railway Post Office). You know that because there is no postmark from Norfolk.

schedule of Train #12 (Figure 2).

Let's play like the train was on time and discover that this letter was picked up at 4:36 pm and arrived at its destination, Hartford, at 6:32 pm.

The 45.61 mile trip from Norfolk to Hartford took one hour and 56 minutes. It averaged about 23 miles per hour. We can speculate that the train was so slow for at

Adams Express CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND RAILWAY .--- Poughkeepsie Bridge Route. See pages 162-163 for Map

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	E. G. BUCKLAND, President and Gen. Counsel	. New Haven. Conn.	A. B. SMITH Cer	neral Passenger Agent.	New House Com-
	HOWARD ELLIOTT, First Vice-President.	Boston, Mass.	F C COLEV FIR	st Asst. Gen. Pas. Agent.	New Haven, Conn.
	B. CAMPBELL, Vice-President Traffic,	New Haven Conn	CEO A MORTO	st Asst. Gen. Pas. Agent.	
	J. M. TOMLINSON, Vice-President and Comptro	oller -	GEO. A. MORTON. General Baggage Agent.		
	A. R. WHALEY, Vice-PresidentOperating,	L. H. KENTFIELD. General Freight Agent. G. M. WOOD. Assistant General Freight Agent. H. H. BENEDICT. Asst. Gen. Fht. Agt., Pier 14, N. R. New York, N. Y.			
	D VAN AI STYNE Assistant to Vice Delating,				
	D. VAN ALSTYNE. Assistgant to Vice-PresidentOperating.				
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	A. S. MAY, Treasurer	"	C. A. CALL M	. Haveling Freight Agent.	New Haven, Conn.
	THOS. F. PARADISE, Assistant Treasurer,	WHOY.	C. A. CALL, Mana	ager Industrial Bureau.	Boston, Mass.
		Poughkeepsie, N. Y.		perintendent of Station Serv	
		New Haven, Conn.	W. F. HICKEY, S.	uperintendent of Insurance.	New Haven, Conn.
		New Haven, Conn.	C. L. BARDO, Ger	neral Manager	The Haven, com.
	T. M. PRENTICE, Auditor,		G W CLARK C	eneral Superintendent.	Describer of Marie
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Figure 2. A timetable from the Central New England Railway provides answers to questions about a piece of mail carried on Train 12 on June 13, 1916, just two days after the timetable went into effect. The arrow points to the column where times show when the train was scheduled to leave Norfolk and arrive in Hartford.

least two reasons. One is it may have paused to take on milk and other food products bound for its final destination, New York City. Another is that the roadbed may have been in bad shape and to avoid derailments, the train went slowly.

At a later date this railroad became a part of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad.

You may notice that the cancel, from the Hartford & State Line R.P.O., is not the same as the name of the railroad, the Central New England Railway. This is because the Central New England had a contract to carry mail for the U.S. Post Office, and the Post Office named its R.P.O.

routes. The best way to find out which railroads held which R.P.O. contracts is to consult a book like those found in the RMPL's Postal History Room.

Postal history is fun. Sometimes it is like "Trivial Pursuit," but you always come away with knowledge of something you were searching for. If it was something you wanted to know, it was not trivial.

ZVZ

This article appears as a bonus with the September-October,1998 issue of <u>Scribblings</u>, the official publication of the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, Denver, Colorado.