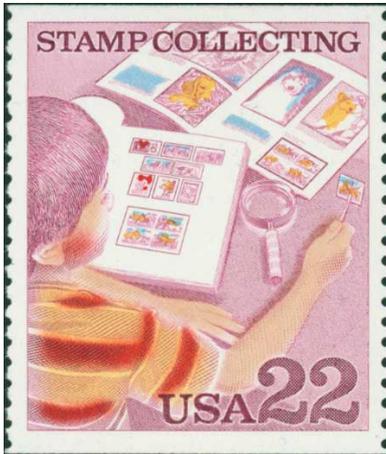


# What is Going to Happen to the Hobby of Philately (Stamp Collecting)?

By Randall Priest

Some questions that are on people's minds:

1. Is stamp collecting safe from extinction?
2. What is the state of the hobby?
3. Who are the collectors who will carry the hobby forward?
4. What influence do the "new" stamp issues have on the hobby?
5. What are some things that take away from the hobby?
6. Should we recruit youth or adults?
7. How does the technology of today influence the hobby?



The best simple answer to all of these questions is a simple, "It depends on who you ask!" Where the hobby goes from today into the future is up to each of us who love the hobby. The most relevant answer comes from how we treat our "collections". Look at your "collections" of stamps and stamp related items. What do you see? Your deflection will be an example of where our hobby is headed in the future. We each have the responsible of keeping our "collections" alive and growing.



Thinking about how our hobby has changed over the years. We need to look back and see where we have come from and what brought us to this point. Many years ago the Post Office was the primary source of what 'feed' the hobby, then the computer came along and we needed to rethink many parts of our hobby. Some of the changes effect different parts of what we collect. Our hobby is more diverse that many of us realize.

How do we 'feed' our hobby? Let us make a list of things -- that will feed (or grow) our hobby.

1. Add to your collections.
2. Revising your collections.
3. Starting a new collection.
4. Telling others about your collections.
5. Going to a stamp club meeting.
6. Going to a stamp show or brose.
7. Helping with club activities.

As long as we are adding to or updating our collections, we will keep the dealers and others who are selling items in business.

Our hobby is not only healthy it is changing which is why it will be around for a long time to come.

**World Stamp Show -- NY2016** by the Editor

So where are you going to be next year from May 28<sup>th</sup> to June 4<sup>th</sup>? The answer is NY2016 – of course! New York City will host the decennial extravaganza of philately. The ‘city that never sleeps’ will be a great playground for everyone involved. Even a non-philatelic spouse can find something to do.

With an expected attendance of a quarter of a million folks, 200 dealers and 3,800 exhibit frames – there will be something for everyone! All the information related to the show can be found on the website at <http://www.ny2016.org> -- keep in mind that hotel space may be difficult to find if you want too long in making reservations – act now to guarantee yourself a place to put up your feet and relax.

There looks like a number of the members of the CFSC will be in attendance – so maybe you can find a travel partner or roomy to help with the expenses. Speak up –if you are planning to go.



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## Contest Answer from the Previous Newsletter

**The Question:** The first commemorative series of U. S. stamps, the Columbian issue, is also one of the most popular for U. S. Collectors. This set of 16 stamps was to be ready on January 1, 1893 and to celebrate the Chicago Columbian Exposition. January 1 occurred on a Sunday when most post offices were closed, so stamps were generally available on Monday January 2, 1893. Most of the set -- that is. Fifteen stamps were on hand at post offices, but one was not ready until March of that year. Which one, and why?



**The Answer:** The answer to the first part of the question is easily found in Scott's Specialized. The answer to part two comes from an article in *The United States Specialist*, October, 2003, by Steven Rod. “After the initial series of 15 stamps had been announced, a 16th was necessitated when PMG Wanamaker issued an official order that, effective January 1, 1893 the new fee for sending a registered first class letter would be reduced from 10 cents to 8 cents.”

So the 8c value was rushed into production, but did not arrive until March.

We had three correct answers and David Zambon was declared the winner after an elimination round. He was gifted with a \$10 Door Prize certificate for his knowledge.

[Thank you to Josh Furman for providing this quiz.]