



#699
August 1968

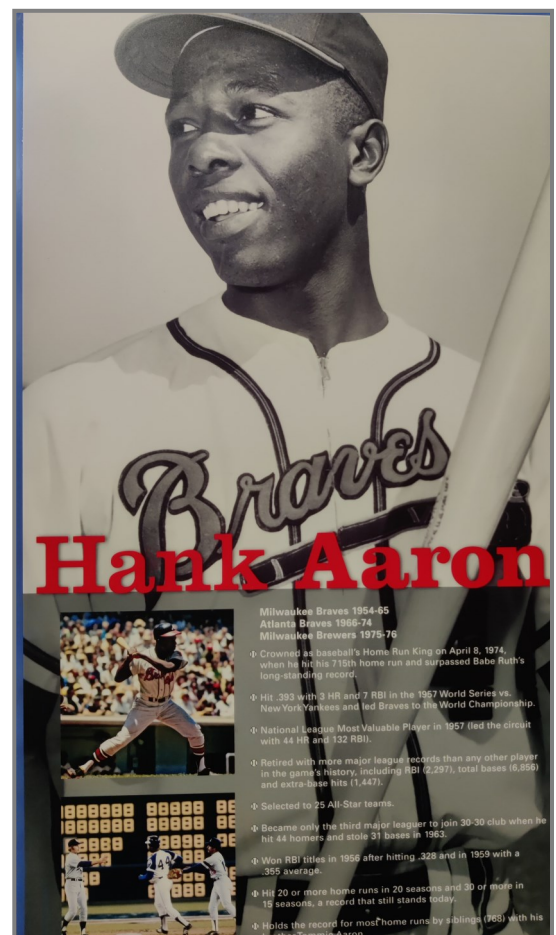


THE COVER STORY

A Baseball Legend on new stamp Issue!



Hank Aaron's wife, Billye Aaron receives special framed souvenir in honor of this momentous First Day ceremony.



Cont. on page 4

Upcoming Schedule— 2024

**** Pre-meeting sessions in 2024 on the third Thursday of the month from 2-4pm. German Philatelic Society will not be meeting in September; but CFSC members are welcome to use the room and equipment during that time.**

Upcoming Meetings:

September 5: Presentation titled “Prexy EFOs” by **Francis Ferguson** followed by a Silent Auction. CFSC Members invited to meet at IHOP for dinner pre-meeting.

September 19: Presentation titled “The Good, The Bad, & The Ugly of Buying Stamp Collections” by **Phil Fettig & Bob Dowrick**, followed by a Silent Auction and Door Prize available. Room available for CFSC members pre-meeting 2—4 pm.

Recap of last Month’s meetings:

August 1: A “Special Birthday celebration” to honor CFSC “Senior Ambassadors” (**Jean Lee, Betty Helton; Josh Furman; Roy Anderson, & Jim Edmunds**) took place (see page 4 for more details) & a “Called Auction” by **Steve Patrick**—18 lots sold—total sales \$316.00. Five members gathered at IHOP pre - meeting for dinner; 28 members and 4 guests attended the meeting. Door Prize was won by **Henry Jehan**.

August 15: 27 members attended + a guest. 8 members met at IHOP for dinner. Presentation by **James Auffant** titled “British Officers Abroad—Specifically Puerto Rico” followed by a Silent Auction where 13 lots out of 33 sold with total sales of \$117.00. Door Prize was won by **Jeff Small** and **Mimi Tompkins** won a Maitland Show certificate. Congrats Mimi! And thanks for bringing treats again! CFSC Board of Directors meeting August 29th.

Fall Show Maitland Civic Center Sept. 7, 2024
Venue on the Lake
641 Maitland Ave. S. Maitland, FL 10am-4pm
For more info: www.FloridaStampShows.com

FLOREX 2024 December 6-7, 2024
Friday 10am-5pm & Saturday 10am-4pm
Tommy Lawrence Arena
Volusia County Fairgrounds—Deland, FL
More info: www.FLOREXStampShow.com

Newest Members

Welcome to our newest member(s):

Robert Wernich Member # 773 has joined CFSC. He is also an APS member and his collecting interests include: Worldwide. Welcome Robert!

Kenneth Weynard Member # 774 has joined CFSC. He is also a member of The Villages Stamp Club and his collecting interest is U.S. stamps. Welcome Kenneth!

Who will be new member # 775?

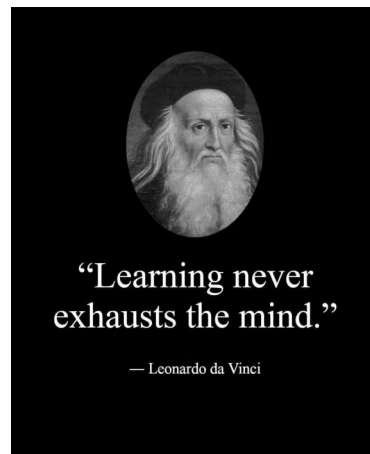
*** Pre meeting Dinner Plans:

Club members are invited to meet for dinner prior to the meeting at the IHOP at 646 E. Colonial Drive at 4:30pm. Bring your appetite – and topics for discussion.



Boston International Stamp Expo
May 23-31, 2026
Boston, Massachusetts
More info at:
<https://boston2026.org>

Quoted



The Editor’s Box

Newsletter articles needed for 2024 Philatelic Missive!

Articles can be submitted via a word document with scans and attached to an email. Thank you!!

Submit articles to: Editor@CentralFloridaStampClub.org



Thank you to those of you who have been submitting newsletter articles—it helps to make the newsletter more interesting. I do have a couple of articles to be published in upcoming issues. Keep them coming! Thank you! **Mike Schumacher**

President's Message by Francis Ferguson

Summer Doldrums in Central Florida

We are smack in the middle of the hotness that is summer in Central Florida. As we experience mid 90s almost every day (or higher) I long for the mountains where moderate temperatures (and humidity) can be found more days than not. From my point of view the invention of modern air conditioning should qualify Willis Carrier for sainthood! How could humanity have ever populated the state of Florida (or the South for that matter) without air conditioning? Tough it out? I think not.



I have a very clear memory of spending time during the summers on my grandparent's farm in Clark Mills, NY and the sometimes-unrelenting heat waves that would hold the area in a tight grip for days on end. The fact that the house was made out of brick – just made it seem like an oven during those scorching days. The only place to go for relief was the basement -- cool and dimly lit by widely spaced dusty and dim light bulbs -- it was a singular refuge for hours. Thankfully those kind of heat waves in the 1960 & 1970s were pretty unusual. Now many of the homes in that area have window air conditioners – at least in the bedrooms. My grandparents who were born in the hills to the north of Beirut, Lebanon in the 1890s did not have any use for air conditioning.

This is the time of year, when I like to cocoon inside the cool(ish) house at 75° and “play” with my stamps. Of course, if you are not a stamp person that is a nonsensical statement. Hours can melt away while in the philatelic land of pleasure. October and cooler temperatures are almost here! What do you do – during the high days of summer in Central Florida? Be well, be safe and above all else be kind.

Questionable Ebay: # 21 Here We Go Again.

By Francis Ferguson



The listing reads “*USA ERROR STAMP 1917 Used Scott#518 \$1 violet brown OFFSET (CROSS SHAPE)*”. Offered at \$890, with \$5 for shipping, returns are NOT accepted. This pretty inexperienced seller (rating of 90 in feedback) is the Middle East – far, far away. As I was watching the item the seller offered me a discount to \$549. That still does even close to the true value of the item. As we saw in the last column, flat plate printing results in ink residuals on almost every stamp produced. While I will give the seller some credit – this

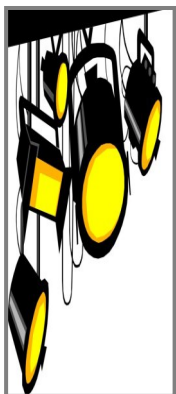
stamp does have a lot of ink on the back – that makes it worth maybe \$10 as a curiosity item. Not valuable in any way that EFO collectors understand.



Coincidentally I stumbled over another listing that was very similar. The listing reads “*1- US Stamp #518 \$1 Dollar Franklin. Errors, Freak, Oddities. Mint OG NH Offset*”. Offered at \$350 or best offer, free shipping and returns are accepted within 30 days. The experienced seller goes to some length to rationalize the selling price. The reality is not any different than the listing detailed above. Not worth anywhere close to what is being asked.

What do you think?

Member Spotlight— Jean Lee & Betty Helton



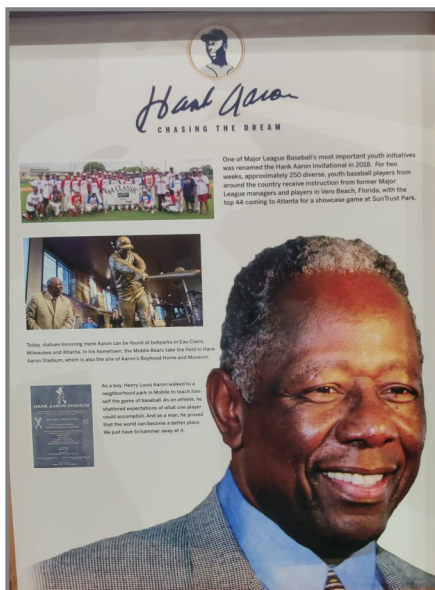
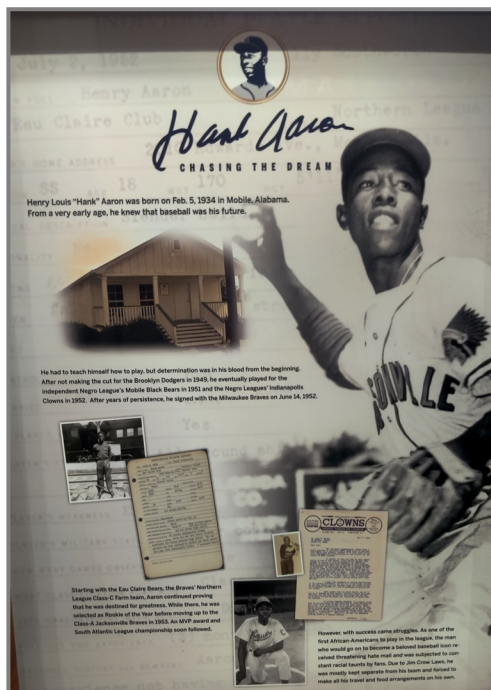
Jean Lee has been a CFSC member since January 2000. She is also an APS member. Her collecting interests included Japan and the Middle East. She is one of the most senior members of the club and occasionally attends the Maitland show and a recent CFSC meeting. She has been a wonderful member of the CFSC sharing many a smile and good times with other members for the past twenty-four years. May you enjoy many more healthy years! (See photo on page 6—she is about to cut the cake.)

Betty Helton has been a CFSC member since 2015. Her collecting interests included U.S. stamps. She occasionally attends a CFSC meeting, especially the Spring Picnic and the December Holiday Party. She occasionally provides an interesting tidbit or two to the editor to add a little something to the CFSC newsletter (See page 7) She also has shared many a smile and good time with other members over the years. Both of these young ladies were recognized at an August meeting as part of the “CFSC Senior Ambassadors”. May you also enjoy many more healthy years! Thank you both for being a part of CFSC! (Betty is in the group photo on page 6—first person on the left of the first row.)

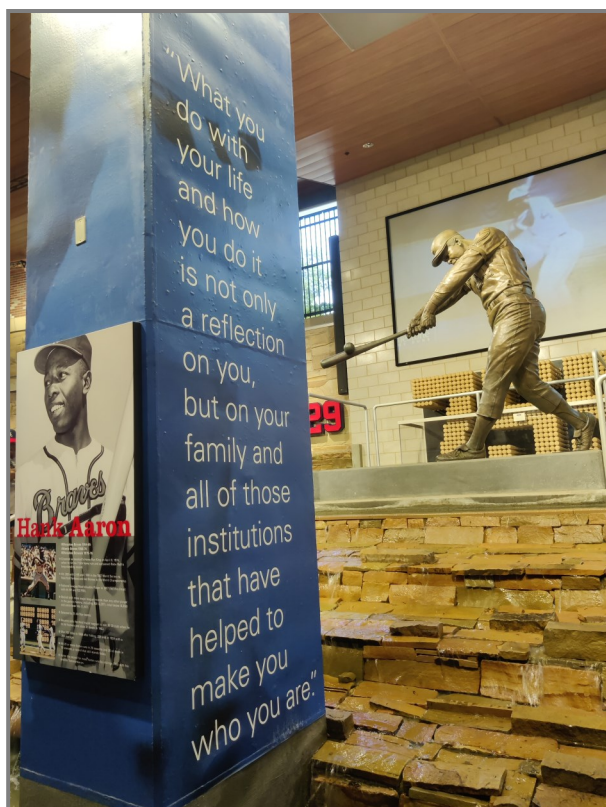
COVER STORY—A Baseball Legend on new Stamp Issue

By Mike Schumacher

On July 31, 2024, the United States Postal Service issued a new First Class stamp honoring the baseball legend **Henry “Hank” Aaron**. The First Day Ceremony took place in Atlanta, GA, at Truist Park the home of the Atlanta Braves.



Hank Aaron—Hall of Fame Player; Front Office Staff, Sports Announcer and Community contributor—with his *“Chasing the Dream Foundation”*.



COVER STORY—A Baseball Legend on new Stamp Issue cont.

A Forever Legend

“Honor the life and legacy of a baseball legend...Hank Aaron. From humble beginnings, Hank Aaron (1934-2021) went on to rewrite the record books while prevailing in the face of racism.

The stamp art features a digital portrait of Aaron as a member of the Atlanta Braves.” (USPS website)



Two First Day cancel were also created for the event.



Henry “Hammerin Hank” Aaron’s Major League baseball stats:

Played with - Milwaukee Braves 1954-65; Atlanta Braves 1966-74;

Milwaukee Brewers 1975-76

- April 8th, 1974 hit home run # 715 surpassing Babe Ruth’s record
- 1957 World Series—hit .393 with 3 HR and 7 RBIs’
- 1957 National League Most Valuable Player
- selected to 25 All-Star teams
- won RBI titles in 1956 and 1957
- 1963 joined the 30-30 club—hit 44 HRs and stole 31 bases (only the third major leaguer to accomplish this feat)
- hit 20 or more home runs in 20 season; 30 or more home runs in 15 seasons
- retired with more MLB records than any other player in the game’s history
- career numbers: games played 3,298; at bats 12,364, home runs 755, RBIs 2,297, hits 3,771, extra base hits 1,447, stolen bases 249, walks 1,402, average .305
- elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame 1982
- donated his entire baseball artifact collection to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Celebration of our Senior Philatelic Ambassadors & CFSC Photo Opp! - Smile!

By Francis Ferguson

August 1st - It was a stormy afternoon/night in Orlando as the CFSC met to acknowledge our senior philatelic ambassadors. Surprisingly 33 folks braved the foul weather to participate in the silent auction, the group picture and the sharing of cake. Jean Lee is pictured next to Stephen Strobel as they cut the cake to be shared. Jean Lee was in attendance with her daughter Val, Josh Furman with his wife Pat, Betty Helton her daughter and son-in-law. Roy Anderson and James Edmunds (not present). All have been involved in the club for many years. We would like to thank them for their long association with the club and the wider philatelic world as they are now a "person of a certain age." Congratulations and we hope to see more of you! Thank you to Robert Fisher for providing water, Rick Cohen picking up the cake, Stephen Strobel for helping to cut the cake and my husband (Ricky) for making the lovely arrangement for Jean Lee to enjoy for many years to come. .

The large group picture is our first one since 2018. It is nice to see everyone together again!



(Back row left to right) J. Bailey, D. Wagenknecht, H. Jehan, D. Zambon, B. Thomas, R. Cohen, J. Snow, M. Smith, G. Perry
(Center row left to right) J. Mendelsohn, M. Bostrom, R. Aquilera, J. Furman, S. Patrick, N. Kulp, R. Blanchard, C. Guffain, R. Fisher, and F. Ferguson
(Front row left to right) B. Helton, F. Gaines, M. Tompkins, J. Lee, P. Fettig, S. Strobel, J. Eller



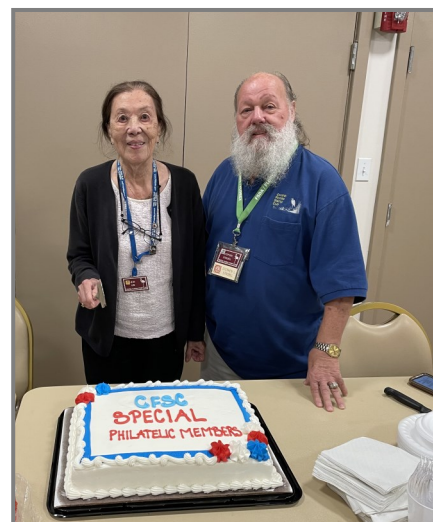
And to think, the 26 individuals in the above photo is less than 1/3 of the 89 current CFSC members. One can only wonder how many years of stamp collecting this group has accumulated!

About to cut the cake is Jean Lee with an assist by Stephen Strobel! ➡

Thanks to everyone who was able to attend and make this meeting a special night in spite of the inclement weather.

Many more happy years of collecting to the CFSC members!

P.S. Please note on your calendar the **CFSC Annual Holiday Gathering Pot Luck will be held on December 19th**, with all the food and frivolity we have come to expect over the years. This gathering will be extra special as we will be acknowledging our long-time members for their decades of service to the club.



Harding Memorial Stamp (2 cent issue of 1923)

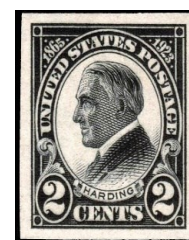
By Betty Helton

As a fitting tribute to the memory of the late President Warren G. Harding (the 29th President of the United States) the U.S. Post Office issued for a limited period, a special Harding memorial stamp of the 2 cent denomination printed in black ink instead of red ink required by the UPU for international use. Black ink was used for the purpose of it being a mourning stamp similar to the 1866 Lincoln 15 cent issued after Lincoln's death.



The Harding memorial stamp is the same shape and design as the 2 cent stamps of the ordinary series of the 1922-23 and bears the portrait of Warren G. Harding from an etching made from a photograph within an oval and partly enclosed in a panel which is separated on either side by scrolls. Above the portrait within a curved panel appears the words "United States postage" in white Roman capital letters. On a ribbon below the oval is the name "Harding" and under this at the bottom of the stamp appears the word "Cents". In both lower corners within ovals with a dark background is the white numeral "2". In the upper left-hand corner appears the year 1865 (the year of his birth) and in the upper right-hand corner is the year 1923 (the year of his death). The entire stamp is enclosed within a plain black border.

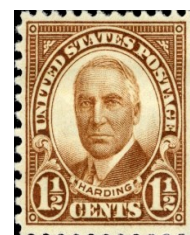
The Harding memorial stamp was produced on the flat-plate press and first placed on sale on September 1, 1923 (less than a month after his death on August 2, 1923) in Marion, Ohio (Harding's hometown) and the District of Columbia. The stamp was printed perf 11, perf 10 and an imperf variety. The initial plan was for the stamp to be sold for only a period of ninety days. The demand for the stamp however, was so great that the print run was doubled and the period of sale was extended to February 27, 1924. To respond to the high demand for the stamp, on September 6, 1923, additional stamps were produced on the Stickney rotary press and sold to the public. Thus, making it the first stamp printed as both a flat plate and a rotary press stamp. The USPS also issued the stamp as an imperf variety in sheets of 400 stamps and was placed on sale at the Philatelic agency on November 15, 1923. So, to fill all of the spaces in your album regarding the Warren G. Harding 2 cent stamps you will need four varieties of the stamp. (Scott #'s: 610, 611, 612 and 613) # 613 is ultra-rare and has a CV of \$35,000.



However, if you are a fan of Warren G. Harding, then you will want to also look at the Warren G. Harding 1 ½ cent 1925 issue designed by Clair Aubrey Huston and engraved by Frederic Pauling (the Harding profile vignette – the same vignette used on the 1923 2 cent stamp, where engravers E.M. Hall, J.C. Benzing and E.M. Weeks worked on the frame.) The stamp was issued on March 19, 1925, this time in brown ink. (Scott #: 631) >>>



But that is not the last appearance of Warren G. Harding on a U.S. stamp. He appears next in 1930 on a rotary press regular issue series with a full -face view in lieu of the previous profile view of Harding. The border design of the new stamp was also changed to agree with the other stamps in the series. The stamp was again printed by rotary press and in brown ink. The full-face view was considered a more satisfactory view of Harding and conformed to the design and quality of workmanship of the other stamps in the Presidential series. The stamp was first placed on sale in sheets with perf 11 by 10.5 and vertical coil perf 10 varieties on December 1, 1930 at the Marion, Ohio Post Office. (Scott #'s: 684 & 686)



Background: Warren G. Harding served as the 29th President of the United States from March 4, 1921 to August 2, 1923. He was born, November 2, 1865 in Blooming Grove, Ohio. When he was 5 years old the family moved to Caledonia where his father was in the newspaper business. He graduated from Ohio Central College and worked some as a teacher and insurance salesman before he purchased *The Marion Star* and made it a successful newspaper. He married, Florence Kling on July 8, 1891. Running the newspaper, his interests turned to politics. He served as State Senator from 1915 to 1921, when he ran for President of the United States. He ran on the theme of "return to normalcy" and waged his campaign from his front porch in Marion, Ohio. He won with 60 percent of the popular vote and 404 electoral votes.



Warren G. Harding appears again on a U.S. stamp on September 29, 1938. >>>>>

A First-Class News Article

Dan Wagenknecht – July 1, 2024

Happy National US Postage Stamp Day! July 1 commemorates the sale of the first US postage stamps in 1847. This observance shows appreciation for USPS workers and encourages philately. To celebrate properly, you should send a letter using a stamp (or stamps). You may also drink your favorite beverage to celebrate. By the time you read this, it is about a month past. Try to remember it next year, but have a drink and send a letter or post card to someone today!



As you probably know, on July 14 the cost to mail a letter in the United States went up again. The increase this time was a full five cents, from 68 to 73 cents for a first-class letter up to an ounce. This ties the largest increase (measured in cents) when on January 27, 2019, the cost of a stamp went from fifty to fifty five cents. But it is nowhere close to the largest *percentage* increase. The increase this month was only 7%. Imagine the inflationary anxiety and sticker shock when mailing a letter spiked by 50% on July 6, 1932, when first class postage went from 2 to 3 cents. Of course that day began an amazing period of postal stability as there was no increase for 26 years, until 1958. Stability is certainly not our situation today. Since July 10, 2022, postage rates have gone from 60 to 63 to 66 to 68 to 73 cents. Why has this happened so quickly?

One factor, probably the main factor, is the shrinking volume of First Class and other classes of letter mail. In 2001, the volume of First Class mail was over 103 Billion (That's Billion with a B) pieces. That was the high mark. The volume of first class letters in 2023 was only about 46 Billion—less than half. As a kid, this budding philatelist would run to the mailbox to see what stamps came. It is rare today to see a stamped letter in my box. If I do, it is usually from a stamp dealer, fellow collector, or a postcard advertising a stamp show. Occasionally it is from a regular person, but most regular people send an email or a text message.

Other factors to discuss would be bloated pensions, government mandated inefficiencies, transportation and insurance costs, and overhead expenses. But that's not something to write home about.

If you would ask one of those aforementioned regular people how much it costs to mail a letter, you would probably get a blank stare. Very few know that the first ounce of a first class letter is 73 cents, with each additional ounce adding 28 cents, and that a post card now costs 56 cents. This ignorance of postal rates is mostly due to non-use of the service, but another cause would be the introduction of the "forever stamp." The first "forever stamps" were issued in 2010, and cost 44 cents.

If you had bought and saved a forever stamp for 44 cents it would be worth 73 cents today (postal use value, not collectible value). You would have achieved a 4.3% annual increase—better than inflation but not as good as an average mutual fund (nearly 8% per year in the last fifteen years). Good investment? Yes, but only if you like stamps. The only time a forever stamp ever went down in value was in April 2016, when the cost went down from 49 to 47 cents. Ten months later it was back to 49.

At one time it seemed like buying lots of forever stamps was a good idea, but as more and more of our commerce and communication is done electronically, how much use will we have for stamps in five or ten years?



One aspect of the postal system that is on the increase is parcel delivery. USPS is competitive with FedEx and UPS, and has the infrastructure and processes to do a very good job. Merchandise purchased online has to be delivered, and the USPS is ready to say, "We deliver for you!" If you ever get a package from me, it is going to have dozens of stamps on it in order to make up the rate. I think the clerks at my local post office cringe when they see me walk in. They are probably relieved when they see I have weighed the shipment at home, calculated the price online, affixed proper postage, and tallied the numbers and denominations of stamps used on a Post-it note. The first time, they usually count every stamp. After a time or two, they know they can trust me.

What they don't like, probably, is when I use a lot of nondenominated stamps. That's a different article for a different time. Until then, happy National US Postage Stamp Day! ...or month?

GASS—Hartford, CT 2024!

By Mike Schumacher

The 138th annual APS Convention and Exhibition (GASS - Great American Stamp Show) sponsored by the APS, ATA, AFDCS and the USPS was held in Hartford, CT — August 15 –18. Four days of Philatelic fun, shopping, looking at the exhibits, attending meetings and presentations, and visiting with and making new friends throughout the show. 80 dealers in attendance, 49 Societies/clubs had booths, 168 Exhibits were on display—including the Champions of Champions Competition, the Most Popular Exhibits Competition, American Philatelic Society, American Topical Association, American First Day Society exhibit competitions and Philatelic Literature Judging. There were a couple of USPS First Day Issue Ceremonies—the new Pinback Buttons stamps, & the Autumn Fall Colors stamps. The U.N. also had a First Day Ceremony. And so much more!
The ATA celebrated its 75th Anniversary!



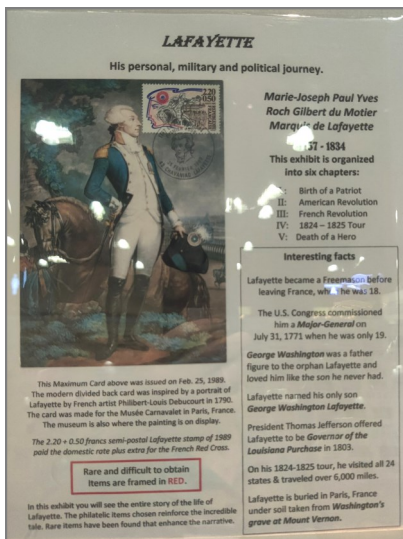
Attendees were lined up at the door waiting to get in well before 10:00am each day.

CFSC members were well represented—attending were—Tom Lera, Steve Patrick, Donald Bourassa, Vernon Morris, Jr., Ted Bahry, Ann Wood, Newt Kulp, Alan Bennett and myself.

Former CFSC member Bonnie Streeter was also in attendance.

CFSC members with exhibits entered in the show were: **Vernon Morris Jr.** competing in the World Series Prix d'honneur with his exhibits titled—

Evolution and Impact of Blood's Local Post 1742 to 1862 and Classic Costa Rica to the 1889 Overprints Issue; **Donald Bourassa** with his exhibit titled—*The Life of the Marquis de Lafayette: His personal, military and political journey* and **Michael Schumacher** with exhibits titled—*Iceland Stamps Printed by Courvoisier Printers—Color Proofs to Usage 1970– 1979* and “*The Match of the Century*”—*A Philatelic Extravaganza!*



“*The Match of the Century*” - *A Philatelic Extravaganza!* Exhibit was awarded the American Topical Association 2024 National Topical Stamp Show Most Popular Exhibit.

CFSC members also spent a number of hours volunteering staffing various society booths and **Steve Patrick** and **Ted Bahry** did presentations as well.



A great time indeed!!!

Closed Album: Robert Feldman by Francis Ferguson



Bob Feldman passed away on August 24 after suffering a horrible fall that resulted in the fracturing of his pelvis in 5 places according to his wife Linda. "Thirty days in the hospital and being mostly immobile due to the nature of the injury -- causing pneumonia to develop which turned into sepsis which became too severe to be conquered with antibiotics."

Bob joined the CFSC in 2014 and could be found at many of the local shows and of course FLOREX. While he did not often hold booth space he was there to buy/sell material. His depth of knowledge came from more than 50 years of being a dealer across a wide breadth of material. He was a life member of the ASDA and held membership in the FSDA (since 1994) and the APS.

Rest in peace Bob – you will be missed by many.

A little tourist fun in Hartford by Mike Schumacher

As I may have mentioned before, a fun part of going to stamp shows in other locations is to see and learn about another part of the world. Well it was no different in Hartford, CT attending the 2024 Great American Stamp Show. The hotel and Convention Center were located near the river, which made for a nice morning walk along the river. And a mere five blocks away was a nice park and on one side was the old state house. (below)



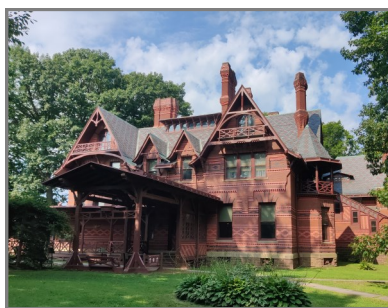
Mark Twain house

And along the two mile walk to the Mark Twain House Museum and the Harriet Beecher Stowe House Museum was the St. Joseph's Basilica. →



Harriet Beecher Stowe house

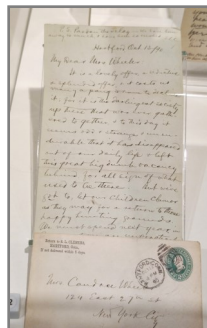
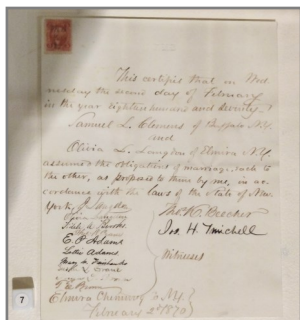
The real fun and learning was at the Mark Twain's House Museum and the Harriet Beecher Stowe House museum. Harriet Beecher Stowe was one of the first authors to live in the area and wrote—Uncle Tom's Cabin amongst many other of her books.



The Mark Twain house is a 25 room Victorian home where Samuel Clemens and family lived from 1874 to 1891. He wrote some of his famous works here—The Adventures of Tom Sawyer and Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. The house cost \$42,000 to build in 1874. Some 50,000 items belonging to the family are in the collection. See photos of a couple of philatelic items below.



Marriage certificate with tax stamp (Clemens')



Letter from Clemens to Candace Wheeler



Mr. Clemens & I

Stowe's letters



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Thanks Robert for the friendship and
 cherished memories!

You will be missed! Rest in Peace!



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APS # 083032

The Central Florida Stamp Club is a 75+ year old organization governed by a Board of Directors elected by the general membership every two years and dedicated to the enjoyment of the hobby of stamp collecting.

- Membership is a reasonable \$30 per year, \$6 for youth.
- Meetings are twice a month on the first and third Thursdays.
- The Membership of the CFSC includes many diverse interests that cover the range from A-Z.
- The meeting is centrally located to downtown Orlando and can be easily accessed from SR 50 (Colonial Drive) and I/4.
- The Marks Street Senior Center has been our host for more than 25 years and provides a pleasant meeting room with easy access and plenty of free parking.
- The informal part of the meeting is prior to 6:00pm. The business side of things will be brief. Cried auction and/or presentation to start at 6:15 until 7:15 Followed by auction wrap up and informal discussions. We must be out of the building by 8:00 without exception.
- The Membership of the CFSC participates as the host and sponsor of the one day shows in February, April, June & September. In addition, we are the resident hosting club for FLOREX which is held in the Central Florida area.
- The CFSC maintains a website: CentralFloridaStampClub.org
- Benefits of membership include; monthly newsletter, access to loaner equipment & catalogs, participation in door prize drawings, the right to submit and bid in cried/silent auctions — and much more.
- Postal address: CFSC P.O. Box 1206, Plymouth, FL 32768-1206
- As of 12.2023

Central Florida Stamp Club



NOTE: Opinions expressed in this newsletter are solely those of the authors placing articles, and are not reflective of the CFSC or any members.

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