

CENTRAL FLORIDA STAMP CLUB – HISTORY

The Club Splits

In about 1955, the club split into two clubs. As stated before from APS and SPA records, we know that the Central Florida Stamp Club survived the split and was in continuous existence during this time.

The entrance of another club, The Orlando Stamp Collectors Club is first noted in the FFSC bulletins in the minutes of the FFSC meeting of November 5, 1955 when its application for membership to the FFSC was first read. Membership was voted and approved in June 1956.¹²

The mere appearance of another club does not prove there was a split. However, later entries in the FFSC bulletin record show contributing members to The Orlando Stamp Collectors Club were from the previous leadership of the Central Florida Stamp Club making the conclusion, that there was a split, undeniable. At the June 9, 1956 FFSC meeting, when The Orlando Stamp Collectors Club was voted into membership, H. V. Condict (Florex 1953 chairman from the Central Florida Stamp Club) was seated as that club's representative.¹³ Entries to several FFSC bulletins for The Orlando Stamp Collectors Club news were submitted by Elsie V. Porter (2nd Vice President of the Central Florida Stamp Club from 1954-1955). William Slocum (President of Central Florida Stamp Club from 1954-1955) and Elsie Porter were named as delegates to Florex 1956 from The Orlando Stamp Collectors Club.¹⁴

Why the split occurred and whether people left the Central Florida Stamp Club or maintained memberships in both clubs is all unknown. The new club appears to have been small; meeting once monthly (on First Fridays) in members' homes. Later the meeting time and place were changed to Second Fridays in Ivey's Drug Store.¹⁵ There is evidence of the occasional joint meeting such as when hosting the FFSC president, John Gavelek as speaker in August 1956¹⁶ and a common delegate representing both clubs when H. Edgar French did so at the November 9, 1957 FFSC meeting.¹⁷

We also do not know how long the Orlando Stamp Collectors' Club remained in existence or what effects it had on the Central Florida Stamp Club's life and vitality. We only know that it happened.

Both clubs suffered loss of leadership in late 1956. Harold V. Condict passed away suddenly on November 25, 1956¹⁸ and just a month later Lawrence A. Kittinger passed away on December 24, 1956.¹⁹

The last entry from the Central Florida Stamp Club in the FFSC bulletins was in November, 1954. Any evidence of the Central Florida Stamp Club in the FFSC bulletins is found in the FFSC meeting minutes or from the Orlando Stamp Collectors' Club entries. Publications of the FFSC bulletins appears to have ended in early 1958.