

Working Together



As you read this, a major focus of the Society is preparing for our **August 12-15 STAMPSHOW** in Richmond, Virginia. This issue of *The American Philatelist* provides extensive details on what is the largest annual event for stamp collectors in the United States. There are more activities than any attendee can possibly partake in during the four days of the event and we hope that this issue, along with our website, helps attendees plan their visit in advance.

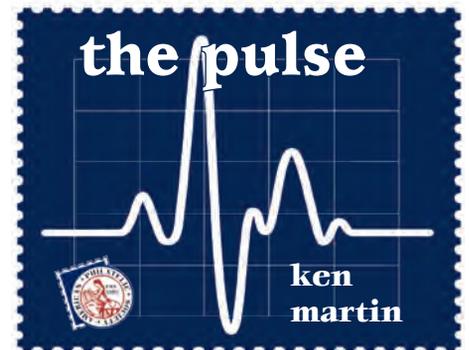
We also would like to thank the many groups who help make the show a great success every year. For the majority of the attendees the greatest attraction is the diversity of dealers. If attendees did nothing but view the exhibits they would have only a few seconds to review each of the approximately 15,000 pages on display. Thanks also to our Affiliates and Chapters whose activities make up many of the 100-plus meetings and seminars and whose members provide numerous volunteers to help run the event. And we can't forget the United States Postal Service, which even in these times of financial challenge recognizes the value of stamp collecting, and the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum, which year after year lends great items from its collection for display.

STAMPSHOW will mark the end of the year for our first class of Young Philatelic Leadership Fellows and the beginning of the year for our second class. A new dealer representative will participate in his first APS Board meeting and our new APRL Librarian will be introduced to the membership.

We hope you are able to join in this annual celebration of the hobby, to make new acquisitions for your collection, view wonderful items, renew acquaintances and make new friendships, help us recognize new 25- and 50-year members as well as Luff, Carter, and Mueller award winners, and meet APS and APRL board and staff members.

We understand that not all members will be able to attend STAMPSHOW in Richmond and hope you don't overlook the many other events held nearly every weekend around the country. We are happy to include an upcoming **calendar of stamp shows** and bourses in each issue of *The American Philatelist*. These listings are free for events sponsored by APS chapters and affiliates. While space limitations in the magazine often restrict this list to only 60 to 90 days past the cover date, events should notify us as soon as they have dates. Our website includes a complete list with a few event planners out as far as 2018! Clubs are encouraged to check out this list before scheduling their future events. Having two events in the same area over the same dates rarely helps either event be successful.

Some of our chapters and affiliates are IRS-recognized, nonprofit organizations. In 2006 the IRS passed legislation requiring that all nonprofits file information at least once every three years. The nonprofit status of those who do not may be revoked. News reports indicate that



Summer Events at the APC

July 17 — Circuit Sales & Library Open

July 31 — Circuit Sales & Library Open

July 26-30 — APS Volunteer Work Week

August 7 — Circuit Sales & Library Open



The Cumberland Valley Philatelic Society of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, presents APS Executive Director Ken Martin a check for their latest donation. This is the third consecutive year that they have made a generous contribution. From left: Quinn Witherspoon, Ken Martin, Richard Sprankle, and Bernie Lodge.

comb, who has long worked to train postmasters to recognize the importance of stamp collectors to the USPS. Congratulations also go to Cheryl on the 15th anniversary of **Stamp Camp USA**, her effort to introduce philately to kids. YPLF Fellow Melissa Stanton and Chapter Activities Committee Chair Tom Fortunato were among the speakers at their recent celebratory event that included an effort for a new listing in the *Guinness Book of World Records*, which we hope is recognized.

Nancy Clark, another former Kehr and Luff Award winner, continues her promotion of the hobby with **APS Stamp Talk**, an internet-based radio show. Visit the APS website or www.wsradio.com for the schedule and time of upcoming broadcasts. In addition to listening live, listeners may also download past shows.

many such organizations had not filed a required return by the May 17 deadline.

The IRS has promised to show leniency, but any non-profit groups that have not filed a return in the past three years should do so as soon as possible. Most nonprofits with annual receipts of \$25,000 or less can simply complete the electronic notice **Form 990-N (e-Postcard)**, which should take only a few minutes to complete and is much simpler than the regular form 990 that organizations such as the APS must complete.

The APS understands that the United States Postal Service is currently under intense financial pressure and so has engaged in two recent efforts to help the USPS work with stamp collectors. We began by sending a mailing to all philatelic clerks offering to provide information and to answer any philatelic questions they may have. Subsequently, we hosted the Central Pennsylvania chapter of NAPUS, the National Association of Postmasters, here at the APC.

These efforts complement the work of APS member, former postmaster, Kehr and Luff Award winner **Cheryl Edg-**

I would be remiss if I did not extend thanks to outgoing APS dealer representative **Jim Dempsey**, who has devoted considerable effort to representing APS dealers over the past seven years. In addition to donating his time and skills, he and his wife Sue have also been very generous financially. A few years ago they gave \$25,000 for a Reading Lounge and recently have agreed to match up to ten \$1,000 gifts from APS dealer members. Thanks to **Richard Clever** of Asia Philatelics for being the first dealer to take advantage of Jim and Sue's generosity. APS member, exhibitor, and YouTube Challenge winner **Henry Marquez** also made a recent generous commitment of \$5,000, which is being matched by his company.

In recent weeks we have been busy picking up several donations of in-kind materials. The philatelic library of former *American Philatelist* editor **Bill Welch** filled the APS van to capacity. Former Assistant Postmaster General **Gordon Morison** has made two trips to Bellefonte to share many of his memorabilia and treasures, with a pickup of additional material scheduled by us in June. We received a gift of stamp

plates of the dinner not printing, variety, from the estate of an individual from the Bellefonte area. And we frequently return from stamp shows with a variety of in-kind gifts that help with displays at the American Philatelic Center, assist our youth and educational programs, and improve our Library and Reference Collection.

Thanks for all that so many of you do to serve and promote stamp collecting!

*See you in Richmond
for STAMPSHOW 2010!*

Why I Support the APS

To me the American Philatelic Society is the heart and soul of philately.

It represents everything good about the wonderful hobby of stamp collecting.

It offers an incredible array of services for all collectors, from the beginner to the very advanced. The APS has a wide range of helpful publications, and all members receive the monthly *American Philatelist* magazine. It offers the services of a research library, by mail or in person. There are APS mail sales circuits and Internet Stampstore. The APS offers expertizing services and stamp insurance. There's something for everyone. All that is what makes the APS the heartbeat of the hobby.

I started collecting stamps when I was seven. The philatelic bug bit hard and here I am, 72 years later, still having incredible fun in my 54th year as a dealer, and only a few years shy of getting my 50-year pin as a life member of the APS.

And now ... it's payback time!

It's time to give something back to a hobby that not only has been very enjoyable, but as a dealer has helped support a family and have a good life.

The APS very much needs financial support, now more than ever. I believe that so strongly that **I will pledge to match the first ten APS dealers who send a check for \$1,000 to the American Philatelic Society.**



Jim Dempsey.



APS Volunteer Work Week

July 26-30

American Philatelic Center

Give us a day or two or come for the week!

Work with APS departments during the day and enjoy some philatelic playtime in the evening when the sales and research facilities will be open just for YOU!

For more information contact Gretchen at gretchen@stamps.org • 814-933-3803, ext. 239
or register online at www.stamps.org/Volunteer-Work-Week