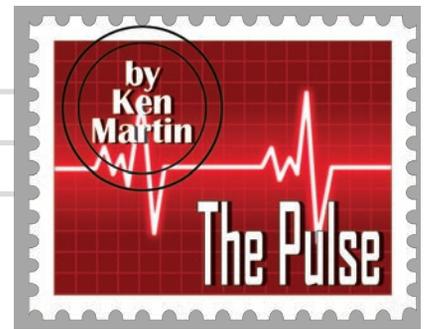


# First Days at STAMPSHOW



For those of you who enjoy attending First Day ceremonies it appears that our August 16–19 show in Sacramento, California will offer five opportunities: three United States new issues and one each from the United Nations and the Marshall Islands. The United States is scheduled to issue stamps each of the first three days of the show. While Sacramento is the official first day for only the final *Flags of Our Nation* stamps, first day of sale ceremonies will also be offered for the *Edgar Rice Burroughs* stamp on Friday, August 17 and the *USS Constitution* stamp on Saturday, August 18. The United Nations will release an issue for the *Paralympics* and the Marshall Islands for *American Indian Dances*. Thanks to the USPS, the United Nations Postal Administration, and Uncover for seeing the benefits of issuing stamps in conjunction with shows.

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Putting on stamp shows may seem to be a lot of work for a relatively short lived event, but they often lead to lifelong friendships that provide rewards long after the show closes its doors. The many fine exhibits prepared for shows and the enthusiasm for the hobby that carries over from shows may also be of a longer term benefit as detailed in a recent letter I received from APS member Roger Quinby. Roger wrote:

You might be interested to know that the two frame Black Heritage Exhibit shown at AMERISTAMP EXPO in January has now been displayed at two Atlanta Public Branch Libraries. It will be on display at the West End Branch Library until June. It seems to be well received.

Several weeks ago there appeared an article about me in the *Atlanta Journal Constitution* in the Metro section. It is a nice article about stamp collecting and maybe it is useful as an incentive to reach out to a wider community.

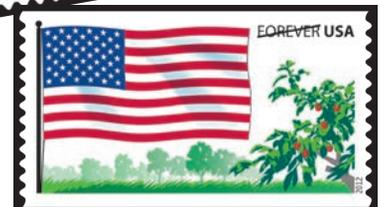
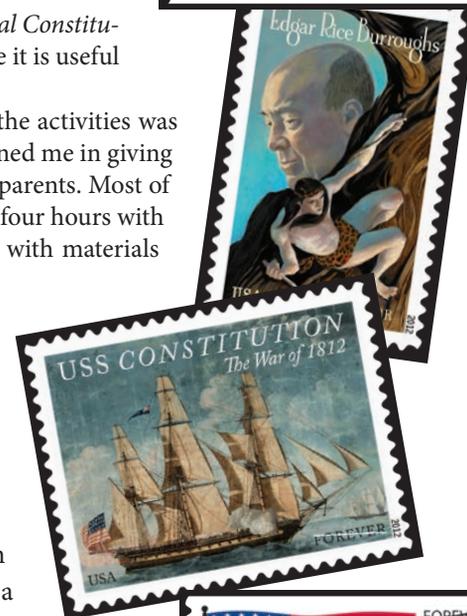
Also, we celebrated an International day at our local library and one of the activities was stamp collecting. Two members of the local club, Bill Barr and Allen Tess, joined me in giving out stamps, stamp album starter kits and supplies to about 50 kids and their parents. Most of the participants were first generation Chinese and Korean families. We spent four hours with the families. Paul Gault, Secretary of the China Stamp Society, provided us with materials and copies of their journal, which enthralled the newly arrived parents.

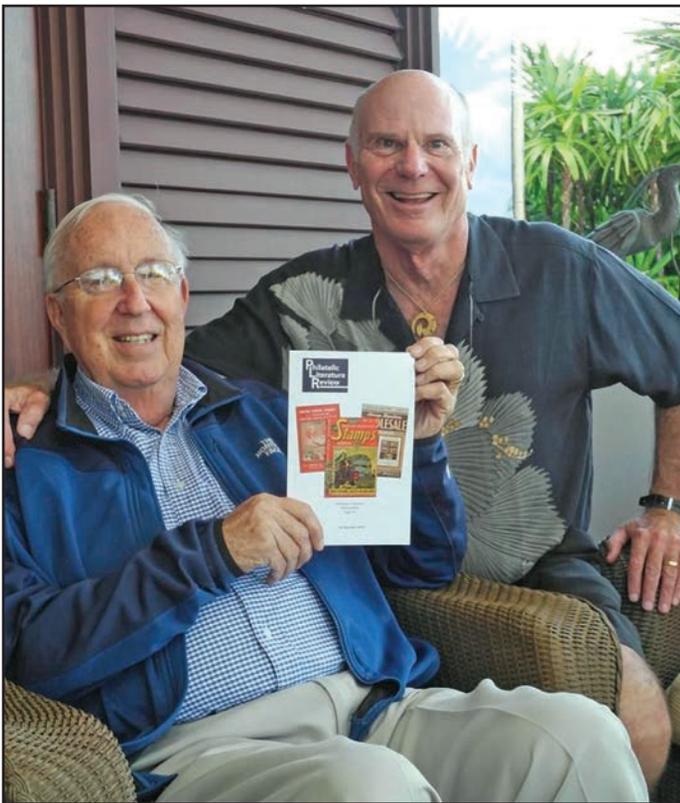
The stamp program at International Day has been extremely successful two years running — you should know that there are collectors helping out the hobby and making contributions to our communities.

We are delighted to hear of the great work of Roger and others to increase the visibility of stamp collecting in the Atlanta area.

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In addition to the traditional winter and summer APS shows, which travel to different locations within the country, we are pleased to be hosting a United States Philatelic Classics Society show in conjunction with the Postal History Symposium this November 2–4 right here at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte. And we were delighted to recently learn that the Central Pennsylvania Convention and Visitors Bureau has awarded us a \$5,000 grant to help promote the event. It seems they believe that the symposium theme, “Blue and Gray: Mail and





Great friends, Roger Schnell and Jon Krupnick.

the Civil War,” has a good chance of attracting collectors and non-collectors to Bellefonte and that once they have visited they are likely to return.

Also received in May was a \$15,000 grant from the William Bingham Foundation of Cleveland, Ohio. This grant will establish an endowment to provide an award named in memory of Tom Allen for the best annual submission to the *Philatelic Literature Review*, the quarterly publication of the American Philatelic Research Library. One of Tom’s many activities in support of the hobby was his many years of work with the Garfield Perry March Party, the annual World Series of Philately show held in Cleveland, Ohio.

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Another letter was recently received from Jon Krupnick. Jon has supported the APS in many ways over the years, but his letter focuses on another great collector and a good friend of his, Library Trustee Roger Schnell. Jon wrote:

.....

**Roger has always believed that scholarly philatelic research is the very HEART of our hobby — and that the sharing of this knowledge with others through exhibiting, writing and judging is the SOUL of the APS.**



A Kodak moment with the Library staff and the Schnell donation before the sorting begins. From left: Director of Information Services/Librarian Tara Murray, Scott Tiffney, Roseann Staie, Neil Cocker, and Betsy Gamble.

Due to illness, my good friend, Dr. Roger Schnell is disposing of his very extensive philatelic library. Both Roger and I live in Fort Lauderdale and for well over 40 years we have been friends. Roger and I have also shared our wonderful hobby. So, when Roger asked me to help pack and ship his philatelic library, I was pleased to help with the project.

On Friday, April 20, 2012, I arrived at Roger’s home accompanied by Olvin Melendez, a man in our office who is responsible for countless duties that he always does with a wonderful positive attitude.

With Roger acting as director, for the next two hours we assembled the boxes and cleared the books from shelf after shelf in Roger’s stamp den. These reference materials had helped Roger prepare over 140 exhibits and author 35 scholarly philatelic articles. Roger has exhibited and won Gold Medals in the Traditional Class, the Postal History Class and the Postal Stationary Class.

Roger’s Philatelic accomplishments over the years have been remarkable. In 1997 his Danish West Indies exhibit won the Champion of Champions Award and an International Grand Prix. In London, England he was honored for all his accomplishments and asked to sign the “Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.” In 2011 the APS honored Roger with the John Luff Award for Lifetime Achievement and Service to Philately.

When we were done packing we had filled 35 file boxes and loaded them into my SUV for a trip to the local post office.

So what is the proper new home for Roger’s diverse and comprehensive Philatelic library?

Knowing Roger and his love for the American Phila-

telic Research Library of the APS there was never any doubt. Roger has always believed that scholarly philatelic research is the very HEART of our hobby — and that the sharing of this knowledge with others through exhibiting, writing and judging is the SOUL of the APS.

Roger is on the Board of Trustees of the Philatelic Research Library, and is currently its vice president. He gives not only of his time but he is also a generous patron of the Research Library

Roger encourages all collectors to support the APRL with donations of both their money and their philatelic material so the library can better serve all our members.

Roger and I actually enjoyed sharing the time it took to fill the 35 boxes with materials from his wonderful library. As we finished, however, I did wonder what the postal clerks would think when I showed up on a busy Friday with 35 boxes to mail.

I should not have worried! The two postal clerks — when faced with this mountain of boxes — could not have been more friendly and helpful. They both had positive attitudes and they made the job easy. I'd lift the box to the scale, clerk Lorena Bartoscak would weigh it and attach the media rate postage. Ronald Williams would then step in and smoothly lift the heavy box to a waiting rolling bin. In short order the 35 boxes were on their way.

Thirty-one of the boxes went to the American Philatelic Research Library in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, and four went to a distinguished judge in Miami who wanted Roger's judging notes and related materials.

The thirty-one boxes mailed to the American Philatelic Society weighed 882 pounds and the four boxes with Roger's judging notes weighed 152 pounds. The total weight of the 35 boxes was 1,034 pounds and by media rate it cost \$501.05 to send them on their way. A real bargain for boxes averaging 30 pounds each.

Having friendly helpful postal clerks to assist is priceless. What could have been an unpleasant chore became an enjoyable experience.

Roger and I hope that you take two messages from our little story:

First, support the American Philatelic Society Research Library with both your money and donations of research materials, and;

Secondly, when you get exceptional postal service like we did let the postal clerks and their supervisors know that

you appreciate their extra effort.

Enjoy and share our hobby with others.

The boxes mailed on Friday arrived the following Tuesday.

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As Jon noted, Roger has been very generous with both his time and money. Roger was one of the first to step forward and become a Vooyo Fellow of the Library by donating \$5,000, which goes to an endowment so that it will permanently be available to generate income to support the APRL. However, it is not necessary to make a single \$5,000 donation to become a Vooyo Fellow; two members, David Kent and Hugh McMackin, just recently completed their pledge to become Vooyo Fellows.

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As I have mentioned in previous columns, several APS chapters are as old as 125 years! On September 30, 2012, the Sequoia Stamp Club of Redwood City, California will turn 65. Even more impressive is that at their September 25th meeting, the club will host a party to commemorate the anniversary and honor charter member William Moll, member no. 9. Congratulations!

Like many other chapters, the Sequoia Stamp Club also supports an annual show. Their effort, known as PENPEX, will be held next on December 1-2, 2012.

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President Wade Saadi and myself can only cover so much APS news in our *American Philatelist* columns. More news is available on the APS website, in our monthly Special e-Delivery newsletter, and on our social media sites such as Facebook and Linked-In where we welcome you to post your own news and photos and to contribute to discussions. If you don't receive the e-newsletter but would like to, please make sure we have a current e-mail address for you.

Thanks to all of you who help make the hobby so special.

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