

The Cover Story

50th Anniversary Celebration

August 16, 2018

This meeting far exceeded my wildest dreams! We had a total of 62 members signed [Figure A1] in along with three guests. This meeting was one for the books as it greatly surpassed the next largest regular meeting night which drew 57 in attendance. It was heartwarming to see so many friends. I personally witnessed countless conversations between members that made it look like a family reunion kind of affair. So much was going on!

The meeting started off with an agenda of items to accomplish. A series of member testimonials and remembrances added a nice touch of relevant history to the night. David Allen, Phil Fetting, Francis Ferguson, Jim Pullin, and Josh Furman all added to the story of the club. Three long time members of the club are shown in Figure A2. Left to right; Bill Johnston, Jim Pullin, and Lynn Cohen. The fifty-dollar door prize was won by Jean Lee – much to her astonishment. A series of quiz questions distributed another ten \$5 scratch off tickets to the membership. (The quiz was somewhat successful.)

The group picture as shown on the front cover of this newsletter is of everyone in attendance. What a grand group of philatelic minded people! The picture was taken in the Ball Room with the aid of a small stage to help arrange the club members. This picture will remain as the testament to the success of the CFSC for many decades to come.

The next event was tasty! The cake which was provided by the daughter-in-law of long-time member Jim Pullin with assistance from his wife Anne, was delicious. I had thought that the whole cake was gone by the end of the



Figure A3

meeting, but two pieces remained for the MSSC staff to enjoy. The clever design that incorporated the famous inverted Jenny airplane was gorgeous to look at [Figure A3]. The cake was pure art – and tasty to boot!

Thank you to everyone who assisted during the night's events. Ann Dowrick and Team David pulled extra duty – and we extend them a hearty thank you for all they did. Robert Fisher provided the water and cooler, which was much appreciated.

In a side note, the APS has already been provided with a short writeup detailing the night's activities and three pictures for publication in an upcoming Journal. I have received word that this event will be the lead topic in Ken Martin's column for I am guessing the October issue.

All in all – it was a fantastic night – thank you for being part of the collective.



Figure A1



Figure A2

The Hunt and the Find

by Rick Cohen

I have come to believe that a rewarding part of the hobby called Stamp Collecting can be “The Hunt and the Find.” Many of you I’m sure can relate. Before you mount that long-sought stamp or cover, you were on a mission.

Allow me to tell you of my experience that, now more than five years ago, I still like to recall and share with others. My wife and I try to travel both domestically and internationally each year. Picking up stamps along the way is always a quest of mine. Together with another couple from Central Florida, the four of us, back in July 2013, decided on an 11-day road trip by car, starting and ending in Portland, Oregon. Besides stopping along the entire coastline of Oregon and a day trip into the Redwoods in northern California, we cut back through the middle of Oregon to visit the “least visited” national park within the US, Crater Lake. Our plan was stay one night just south of the park and tour the park the next day. We had reservations for the Crater Lake Bed & Breakfast in Fort Klamath, OR [Figure A4]. Pulling in after dark, we really couldn’t see much of the building until morning. All we had was the picture from the brochure, which I received with my reservation confirmation. It turned out to be a two-story “farm house” in the middle of nowhere!

We befriended the owner, Mrs. McNeil, a widow of several years, and upon our return from dinner at the Lodge at Crater Lake inside the Park, the five of us sat down at her dining room table to share dessert, a 5-plus pound freshly baked 6-berry pie which we bought at a road-side bakery a few miles outside of Fort Kalmath, OR and some rich vanilla ice cream she had in her freezer. We all became instant friends!

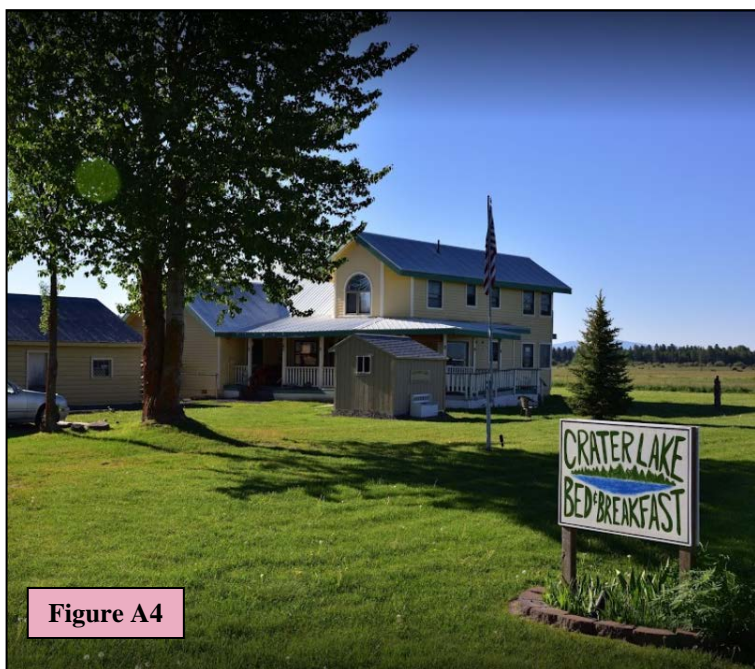


Figure A4

The best part of my story begins the next morning. As we began to load up our car for the next day’s travel, I told my wife....”I think she has stamps. I can feel it.” The two-story house with a mid-level loft was clean but had clutter everywhere. I just had that feeling! So, as I entered the house to get the last suitcase, I said to Mrs. McNeil, “Do you have any stamps here?” She reacted a bit surprised, probably asking herself, “what a wild question.” She responded, “Why do you ask?” I replied, “I’m a stamp collector and I just have a feeling you have some stamps here.”

The surprise was on me! To my delight, she said “Yes, I do! I have some books and boxes in the next building and I’ve been planning for some time to have a garage sale to sell them along with other things.” I quickly said “Let’s have the garage sale right now, before I leave. I’d like to see what you have, and I am prepared to pay cash on the spot.” I’m sure that was music to her ears.

Mrs. McNeil proceeded to bring everything to the dining room table. I had to ask my wife and our traveling couple to give me some extra minutes to review the material.

Well, I made an offer, she countered, I countered the counter offer, in the end she had my cash and we drove off with a U.S. stamp collection. As late as last week, I’m still pulling material from those books and boxes and putting them in my albums. I’m glad I left extra room in my suitcase!

Folks who have traveled with me know my passion for stamps and have heard this saga. Even after 5 years, they still joke with me about this experience, but I really enjoy The Hunt and the Find!

P.S. – The Post Office inside the park had in a frame at the window a mint single of Scott #745, the 6-cent blue Crater Lake issue from 1934. I tried to buy it for 6 cents. It was of course a Post Office. No luck!!