



#699
August 1968



The Cover Story

Makes You Wonder!



Figure 1



Figure 2

Upcoming Schedule—May and June

** May Pre-meeting sessions

May 4th CFSC starting at 2:00 pm CFSC members time to work on philatelic interests, use the club catalogs, etc.

May 18th starting at 2:00 pm CFSC hosting German Philatelic Society meeting—all are welcome to attend. CFSC members can even come during that time and work on their own philatelic interests in another part of the room.

May (1st meeting) “Member Show and Tell” Let Mike Smith know you want to be on the list. Silent Auction to follow.

May (2nd meeting) Presentation “Iceland Color Proofs of Stamps from the 70’s.” by Mike Schumacher; followed by a silent auction.

June (1st meeting) Called auction—bring your items to sell.

June (2nd meeting) Presentation by John Catiller on “Oddities & Novelties—Weird Stamps from around the World” followed by a silent auction.

March Meetings Recap

April (1st meeting) Cried Auction was conducted by Auctioneer Jim Cooney— 29 lots sold with total sales of \$522.50 Five people met for dinner; four people attended the pre-meeting and 35 people attended the meeting. Richard Blanchard won the \$10 door prize.

April (2nd meeting) The German Philatelic Society met and had a presentation prior to the CFSC meeting. 10 CFSC members met for dinner and 31 individuals attended the meeting where Newt Kulp did a presentation on Computer Generated Postage part 2, which was followed by a silent auction. Gary Byrd won the \$10 door prize. 22 lots sold in the auction with total sales of \$205.50

Event Calendar 2023

Maitland one-day stamp shows:

June 3rd - FSDA Summer show

Sept. 9th - FSDA Autumn show

FLOREX 2023 December 1-2, 2023

Volusia County Fairgrounds—Deland

For more info: www.FloridaStampShows.com

Newest Members

Welcome back to returning members:

Rick Jones #743 APS member & area of interest U.S.

Mary Fleming #640 area of interest Lighthouses, FDCs and History

Who will be new member number 765?

Dinner Plans

There are plans to meet at 4:30pm at the Chuan Lu Garden at 1101 E. Colonial Drive. Located on the north side of Colonial Drive one block west of Mills Ave. There is plenty of parking behind the restaurant. Bring your appetite – and topics for discussion.



Great American Stamp Show

APS, ATA & AFDCS

sponsors

August 10-13, 2023

Cleveland, Ohio

More info: <https://stamps.org>

Quoted

“The World is a book and those who do not travel read only one page.”

Saint Augustine



Issued by the
Vatican in 1954



Issued by Great
Britain in 1997

The Editor's Box



Submit articles to: Editor@CentralFloridaStampClub.org

Surely, you have something interesting in your collection to write about. Just write it up and submit it along with a scan of the item(s) and let's get it in a future Philatelic Missive! It's as easy as this:

At first glance this cover appears to be an interesting Icelandic cover. The stamps, cancel and airmail label are all consistent with an Icelandic cover. It's pretty common to find Icelandic covers mailed to the United States, so nothing out of the ordinary there. However, upon closer examination the envelope depicts a scene in Lithuania. Collecting Icelandic philately for 30 years and that's a first for me. So, drop me a line and let's see what interesting things you have in your collection.



President's Message by Mike Schumacher

Greetings CFSC Members:

The April Fools Day **Maitland Stamp show was a success!** (and that's no fooling) and as always thanks to the CFSC members who volunteered and helped make it a success! A couple of attendees expressed interest in re-joining the club, so looking forward to some new people attending the meetings.

The CFSC - 8th Annual Spring Picnic on April 2nd was also a big success. Folks attending had a good time; good food and lots of fun! Twenty-three people were in attendance; door prizes were given out and a couple of items were auctioned off to raise funds for the CFSC. A "Phil Fetting Mystery box" was sold (Thank you, A & R Stamps—AKA Phil Fetting) as well as a copy of Mike Schumacher's book along with a \$50 Florida Scratch off ticket that had a potential top prize of One Million Dollars a year for Life. Oh, if only the winning bidder could be so lucky! Thanks to the volunteers who helped make the picnic a good time for all—Gene Perry, Carlos Guffain, Francis Ferguson, and Mike Smith. And thanks to all of the other attendees who brought plenty of great eats to share! The auction items raised a total of \$75.00 for the club. More info on pages 6-7.

Be aware and be safe! As someone who spent over thirty years of his working career serving crime victims for the County Attorney's Office in Minneapolis, MN, I have seen firsthand the impact that a crime can have on a person/family/community. It can be very disruptive and unsettling.

Recently, one of our club members was the victim of a crime while conducting club business. It had an impact on him, his family and the CFSC. He had gone to the bank to pick up some funds needed to conduct business for the Maitland stamp show and a club meeting auction. After leaving the bank he returned to his vehicle and hid the funds out of site. On the way home he made a brief 10-minute stop at a store and while in the store his car window was broken out and the money was stolen by a thief. The police were contacted and a report was made. The police investigation discovered that the club member had been followed from the bank to the other store location and once the club member went into the store the thief seized upon the opportunity to break into the car and steal the money.

The result was that the club member had to have his car repaired at a cost of a \$500 deductible and the CFSC incurred a loss of the money (\$560). The victims' insurance covered \$200 of the stolen cash and the repairs of the broken window minus the deductible. Being the club member was conducting club business at the time of the theft it was only appropriate that the \$200 from his insurance go towards covering some of his deductible. As Club President, I decided that the remainder of the \$300 deductible should be covered by the club, instead of the individual club member, thus the CFSC is also a victim in the incident and has incurred a total loss of \$860.

The police continue to pursue the investigation, but have indicated that even if the criminal is caught and prosecuted, the likelihood of CFSC receiving restitution is minimal. In my thirty years of providing assistance to crime victims in the court system, I can confirm that getting restitution happens infrequently. This is a most unfortunate incident for the club member and the club, but we all will be able to recover from this incident. The CFSC Board has taken action to obtain insurance coverage to better protect the club from losses. Since the incident a few club donation auction items have been sold in auction to help replace some of the money and club funds have been invested in some CD's which will earn better interest and that will assist in adding funds back into the club accounts.

The important part of this message is that we all unfortunately, must remain ever vigilant as we go about our daily affairs. That holds true whether we are going to the store, taking a walk in the community, attending an event, transporting valuables, etc. Criminals looking for an opportunity can and will find us. This can hold true even if we are safe within our homes – many criminals find ways to try and scam people through the use of phone calls, letters, or via emails on the computer. Be careful, use caution and good judgement. This message is not meant to scare people from going about their daily business, but instead is meant to caution you to be alert and aware that there are individuals who are looking to take the opportunity to do criminal activities. Be aware, stay alert and be safe! Let me know if you have any questions.

Due to my longer message this time—the "Member Spotlight column can be found on page 8 of this issue.

Cover Story: Makes You Wonder!

By: Mike Smith

Sometimes, I have to sit back and scratch my head. Not because I have lice! Rather how the expertizing services can occasionally issue certificates of authenticity with such disparity in their so-called “opinions”. As most of you know, I am an investment collector deeply in debt with a collection of high-quality United States classic stamps. Therefore, it is vital, a necessity even, to have my philatelic treasures backed up with certificates of authenticity by professional experts.

Most services have at least three specialists independently evaluate an item before a consensus is reached and the certificate is signed by the top dog. My collection is backed up by over 500 such certificates so I can sleep well at night knowing when it comes time to sell, I will be able to do so with confidence. Let’s face it, these are very delicate historical artifacts made of fragile paper with gum and perforations subject to improper storage and mishandling over time.

Occasionally, I come across a stamp that seems to stump even the experts. Maybe confuse is a better term! The subject of this article is a U.S. Scott# 71, 30-cent orange Franklin. (figure 1 on the cover) This issue is notorious for having very small, tight margins, particularly on the left and right sides. So, when a stamp with large and balanced margins comes around, it catches my attention. Mind you, this is not a terribly rare or expensive stamp, but it is very difficult to attain in higher grades. I purchased this stamp in a Kelleher auction in May 2019. It had a clean Philatelic Stamp Authentication & Grading (PSAG) certificate from February 2019 (figure 1 on the cover) but was not graded. I bid on it with the assumption it was a defect-free sound stamp and won it at \$300 even though the catalogue value was only \$250. My intent was to submit it for grading hoping it would grade high and be worth considerably more than what I paid. After all, it looked amazing with its fancy cogwheel cancel. A photo of the stamp and the clear PSAG certificate that accompanied it from the auction are shown on the front cover.

As life goes, I was remiss in sending it for grading in a timely manner. Another lesson learned since I now have such items put on extension at the time of auction purchase, regardless of whether it has a clean certificate! I finally got around to sending this beauty in to the Philatelic Foundation (PF) in October 2021 hoping for an XF 90J grade.

I was shocked when it came back with an “opinion” that “it is genuine, reperforated at left, right and top”. (figure 3)

My first reaction was anger! How can a stamp be reperforated on three sides? Perhaps two, but three? I measured it myself using two different perforation gauges, one a high precision gauge. Everything measured perfectly at perf. 12. The holes all lined up and looking at the holes under magnification, I did not see evidence of razor-sharp clean cuts that would indicate a reperforated stamp. All the holes had a fibrous nature to them. I decided to call the PF and have a discussion regarding their “opinion”. The person who answered, who I will not name, said, “oh yeah, I remember that one. That was one ugly stamp!”

Okay, well now I was insulted and proceeded to disagree with them. I stated my case that this issue



Figure 3

Cover Story: Makes You Wonder! Cont.

normally has small margins so if it was indeed reperforated on three sides, it must have had football field sized white paper all around to end up with such large margins *after* reperforating. Needless to say, I lost the battle. They claim all three of their experts concurred and so did the head honcho who signed the certificate.

Do not misunderstand me, I think very highly of our fellow philatelists and more so of the experts at the PF than any of the other services, but something did not smell right on this one. As a last-ditch effort, I decided to send it to the Professional Stamp Experts (PSE) for another set of eyes in January 2022. This time, it came back reperforated at the right. (figure 4)



After digesting all the information and having three differing opinions from the three major philatelic authentication services, I came to accept that the last certificate from the PSE was perhaps the most accurate. Why? While I would like to believe the clean PSAG certificate is the accurate one, a reperforated stamp on one side is highly probable, so I must accept that this stamp most likely was a sheet margin or straddle pane stamp with a straight edge along the right side. This, unfortunately, was common practice back in the day to reperforate single straight edged stamps.

Sad, but true, Mike got duped on this one! So now, instead of having an XF 90J (jumbo) stamp with an SMQ value of \$1,100, I have a stamp worth perhaps \$100. Of course, when I go to sell this stamp, all three certificates will accompany, and the new buyer will have to decide for themselves. The bigger concern here is I paid good money at auction assuming the stamp was sound as advertised, then paid more money for two additional certificates only to get confusing opinions. I do not expect this is easily resolved but it breeds uncertainty and lack of trust within the hobby. I can accept some level of diverse opinions but reperforation should be easy to assess by the experts. If they cannot get it right, who can?

Figure 4



Courtesy and Protocol Reminder by Mike Schumacher

Club meetings and activities are about sharing the joy and pleasure of philately and the friendships of other club members. Kindness, patience, courtesy and decorum about following a few protocols helps to make things go more smoothly and enjoyable for all.

Please be patient and courteous to other members who are volunteering to handle the work and responsibilities of the accounting work for the auctions. It takes a little time and precision to get it done right and getting it done right makes collecting and paying out the monies go a lot easier.

With that said, **please do not crowd around the accounting table until directed to do so**, once they have completed the necessary work. Crowding around the table results in noise that disrupts the process and slows things down. Every effort is made to make the process run as smoothly and quickly as possible. Everyone's courtesy and following of protocols will tremendously help this process. So once the bidding is concluded, just carry on your discussions away from the front table and be patient. You will be notified when to approach and conduct the money transactions.

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!!

THANK YOU!!!

THANK YOU!!!!



THE VARIETY HUNTER Scott Martz

Case #389: the Orangeburg Coil – Solved!

Well It has been a full 5 months since I sent the possible #389 Orangeburg Coil off to The Philatelic Foundation for examination and certification. During the past 5 months I was on pins and needles waiting...and waiting and waiting.


Robert Taylor, who sent it in for me, called the Foundation several times to enquire about its status, and the last two times was told there was a conflict, and we would have to wait.

Conflict? Since they did not elaborate, my mind of course wandered. What could it be? My first thought was that the expert committee was split, unable to come to a consensus. Or was it two good and one altered, or the other way around? Did they have to send it to additional members of the expert committee to decide? I am sure I will never know the real reason.

Needless to say, the wait was excruciating. But finally the call came from Robert; he said he received an envelope from the PF with my stamp—and luckily a BILL. Yes! they determined it genuine. See the attached certificate. It had a little crease and a thin (which I still do not see) but it is a real Orangeburg Coil. After that, I probably grinned for a week. Thank you to the small town country auction house in New York for the BEST LOT EVER. I only wish I sent it in 5 years ago when I first got it. So keep your eyes peeled—you never know what you will find lurking in those junk bins!

Happy Hunting! Scott

The Philatelic Foundation				No. 559499
22 East 35th Street • 4th Floor New York, NY 10016				08/05/2019
EXPERT COMMITTEE				
We have examined the enclosed item, of which a photograph is attached, and described by the applicant as follows:				
Country: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA				
Cat. No.	Issue	Denom.	Color	
389	1911	3¢	deep violet	
Scott's unless otherwise specified.				
USED, WAVY LINE MACHINE CANCEL.				
AND WE ARE OF THE OPINION THAT:				
IT IS GENUINE, WITH A SMALL THIN SPOT AT TOP LEFT, A SMALL DIAGONAL CREASE AT TOP AND SOME LIGHT BLUE PAPER ADHERENCE ON REVERSE. *				

				
559499				
For The Expert Committee Chairman				
Photocopies of this Certificate are not valid.				
Submitted by SCOTT MARTZ				

CFSC 8th Annual Spring Picnic

Photo credit—Mike Smith

Sunday, April 2nd turned out to be a wonderful weather day for CFSC members to get together for some good food, conversation, fun and friendship! Door prizes a plenty and a couple of auction items. Thank you to Phil Fettig (A & R Stamps) for the “Mystery Box Lot”! Francis, Thanks for bringing and cooking up the sweet corn!

(More photos on page 7)

Be sure to join us next year for the CFSC Picnic!



CFSC Picnic Photos! Cont.

Attendees included:

Gene Perry, Mike Schumacher, Carlos Guffain, Jeff Small, Terri Small, Stephen Strobel, Francis Ferguson,



Attendees cont.

Steve Patrick, Mike Smith, Gene Perry, Richard & Charlynn Blanchard, Bob & Joan Fisher, Rick & Es Cohen, Jim & Lila Tinkoff, Ron Gordon, Sylvia Villar, Allen & Joyce Lane, Betty Helton, & Wes Helton.

Thanks to everyone for the good time!

(Not everyone shown in photos)



Stupid eBay, # 7 “Nuts Times Two”

By Francis Ferguson

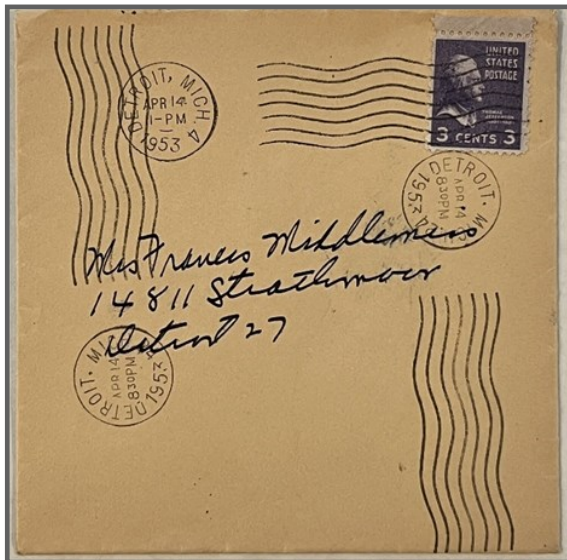
I just shock my head when I saw these two listings.



“US Stamp Cover US Stamps 948a 948b 1075a 1075b Genuine APEX #245341.” Opening bid of \$350 with free shipping.

The APEX Cert does state that the usage is genuine. (Why anyone would submit this for an expert opinion is mind blowing.) The cancel appears to be February of 2019, which makes it a modern use – not even in period. This item under the best of circumstances would be viewed as a curious piece with NO philatelic value. There is no valid reason to think this prize piece is worth \$350!

Another stinker.



The listing reads:

“INTERESTING ERROR 1953 US COVER WITH 3 DETROIT CANCELS IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS.”

Offered at \$192.39, with free shipping.

An immediate buy was offered at \$153.91 – which was declined.

The fact that this cover has three cancels in three different orientations is really nothing more than a curious happenstance. Value? Nothing in my view.

Why anyone would think it is worth nearly \$200 is beyond me.

My best guess is a postal employee with way too much time on their hands was being playful.

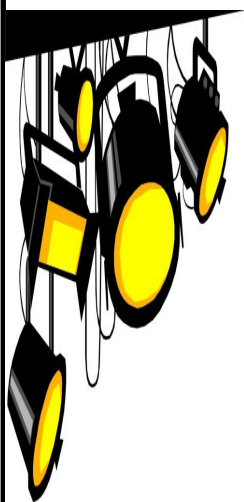
Member Spotlight - Phillip and Ann Fettig

Phillip and Ann Fettig—the dynamic duo who are otherwise known as A & R Stamps.

Phil has been a member of CFSC since January of 1979. He is a life member of APS, FSDA. He is also a member of FPHS, USSS, APRL, & USCS/SHIP. Over the years he has served on the CFSC Board, served as President and as FLOREX Show Chair.

Classic Naval Covers is an area of interest of his. A review of the Philatelic Missive finds his name as author of numerous articles over the years and he has done numerous club meeting presentations. He and Ann (A & R Stamps) have long been a dealer at both the Maitland and FLOREX shows. His “Mystery Box Lots” have long been a tradition and a delight to the lucky bidder who wins them at auctions. They have long been legends in terms of their support and contributions to the CFSC.

Thank you Phillip & Ann Fettig!



CFSC Members - Stamp Dealers

Central Florida Stamp Club members who are Stamp Dealers—who we appreciate immensely for the hard work and endless hours they put into keeping their stock up-to-date and filled with the gems we are looking for to fill those holes in our albums and exhibits. Thank you to CFSC stamp dealer members! They include:

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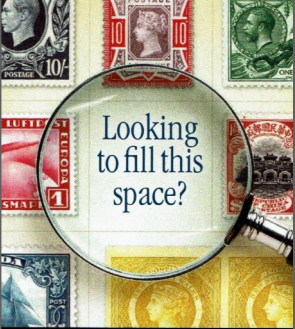
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The Central Florida Stamp Club is a 75+ year old organization governed by a Board of Directors elected by the general membership every two years and dedicated to the enjoyment of the hobby of stamp collecting.

- Membership is a reasonable \$25 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.
- As of 01.2023

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.

The Editor of this newsletter, Mike Schumacher
can be reached at E-mail address
Editor@CentralFloridaStampClub.org

CFSC Officers (2022/2024)

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