



# CENTRAL FLORIDA STAMP CLUB

A WHOLLY OWNED ENTITY OF THE MID-FLORIDA PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. Box 1206 ---- PLYMOUTH, FL 32768-1206

## Program Schedule (Feb/Mar/Apr)

The first meeting in February will be a presentation on Holocaust Stamps. Second meeting is a discussion of Pearl Harbor stamps by our one and only Phil Fettig. This will also be the first quiz night of the year --- come prepared.

The first meeting in March is Hotel Post Offices by Bill Bomar, Jr. The second meeting will be the Club \$2 auction night.

The first meeting in April is Yangtze Patrol by Larry Stiles and the second meeting will be French FDCs by Steve Patrick

The first board meeting of 2007 is March 29<sup>th</sup>. Board member's please mark your calendars.

## Club Auction Night

The first meeting of 2007 which was the CFSC annual club benefit auction was a smashing success, with an amazing 100% of the 39 lots sold, generating nearly \$186 for the treasury – this was nearly 2 months worth of meeting nights. Thanks to those who donated items for the auction, those that bought, and those that worked! Good job.

## Dues 2007

Your dues for the year 2007 are past due as of 01/31/07, if you have not paid --- please do so now!

## Event Calendar 2007

SARAPEX (Sarasota)	Feb 2-4, 2007
Precancel Show (Lee Rd)	Feb 7-10, 2007
Central Florida Fair	April 19-29, 2007
SUNPEX (BSC)	May 12-13, 2007
CFSS Fall (TBA)	Sept 29-30, 2007
FLOREX 2007 (CFF)	Nov 30, Dec 1,2 2007

For more info: [www.FloridaStampShows.com](http://www.FloridaStampShows.com)

## Central Florida Stamps Show – Winter

Seventeen dealers participated in this show with a total of 19 tables. Traffic counts seemed to be higher than other similar shows in recent years. About 80% of the dealers reported better than expected to great sales, with the remaining 20% reporting average to slightly below sales. "Thanks!" --- go out to all the club members who put in time at the front table greeting the show attendees.

## SUNPEX 2007

The club is looking for 30 frames of exhibits from club members for this show. Please consider getting your feet wet with this opportunity. Jim Archbold has agreed to act as the exhibit chair for the show, contact him for more information. There is no exhibit fee for club members.

## Central Florida Fair 2007

The club is in need of packets of stamps for distribution at the club's booth during the 10 day run of the fair. We have in past years distributed up to 1,500 packets. Please contact John Shirley for further information.

## Monthly Fun with Stamps Quiz

The on-going series of quizzes continues in 2007 with the following scheduled,

- |                                 |                      |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| ➤Feb (2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting)  | All Wet              |
| ➤Mar (1 <sup>st</sup> meeting)  | Purple it be         |
| ➤Apr (1 <sup>st</sup> meeting)  | Order This (1922/25) |
| ➤May (1 <sup>st</sup> meeting)  | Top of the World     |
| ➤June (1 <sup>st</sup> meeting) | Christmas in the 90s |
| ➤July (2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting) | Swiss Cheese Anyone? |

## **Odd Connections**

I joined a specialty group in 2001 that has a home base in Texas. In 2004 I bought a large box of collection remains from a distant dealer in the Northeast. In the box was material from a fellow specialty group member that I had never met before, but was aware of his name from the membership roster. He passed away in 2003. At the January club auction I placed a cover from that lot purchased in 2004, and was startled to be told that a fellow CFSC member recognized the corner card on the cover as a long time friend in California. Small world!

## **CFSC Web site**

The site is in the process of being updated. The facelift for 2007 should be completed shortly.

## **Club Membership Roster 2007**

The club roster for 2007 will be released at the first meeting in March.

## **Serendipitous Philately ---**

### **The Notopfer Affair, by Bruce Mc Pherson**

Part of the adventure of philately is the inadvertent discovery of something new and interesting related to your hobby. An example of this happened to me in 1997. As part of my German stamp collection I had accumulated a number of the little blue Berlin tax stamp known as the Notopfer. This 2 pfennig "Emergency Tax" stamp was issued to raise funds for the relief of West Berlin. Letters mailed without this stamp were returned.

A total of 20,000,000,000 Notopfer stamps were used, benefiting Berlin relief efforts by \$100,000,000. The large number of stamps issued also yielded varieties. I had developed an interest in these varieties when a note in 'Linn's' announced that a man in Canada, Mr. George Rath, was trying to organize a group of interested collectors. I had several phone conversations with George and one day in 1999 I mentioned that I had plans to visit Berlin in the next few months. George responded with the offer to contact a young friend in Berlin, advise him of my pending visit and suggest that he meet with me.

About one week later I had a phone call from Berlin. George's friend, David Geisler, requested to meet with me upon my visit. I flew to Vienna, Austria in May 1999. After spending time in Vienna I went on to

Salzburg. Then to Munich and on to Berlin by train. When I settled into my hotel room I called David. We met for breakfast and he announced that he had requested to be away from his job for the next three days so that he could show me Berlin. His father had designed the museum commemorating the Berlin Air Lift, which I attended as a VIP. I had an unexpected experience in touring Berlin with a personal knowledgeable guide. We visited the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Tower, the Berlin Zoo, the Berlin Reichstag, the Flea Market, in addition to the Airlift Museum and the Brandenburg Gate. I was shown many interesting sites that would not be seen by the average visitor. I discovered that the gratitude felt by Berliners for Americans is very strong. The days of the Berlin Air Lift are still remembered.

This visit to Berlin also allowed me to see the Brandenburg Gate, which is also a favorite subject of a special stamp collection. I will say more about the Brandenburg Gate in subsequent columns.

Since the day of our first meeting, David has met and married an American girl. They reside in Italy and now have two children. We still correspond.



## **Club Officers**

❖ President	John D. Shirley
❖ VP-Programs	A. Stephen Patrick
❖ VP-Operations	Francis Ferguson
❖ Treasurer	Mark A. Friedland
❖ Secretary	Jim Archbold
❖ Director-at-Large	Al Nagy
❖ Director-at-Large	James R. Pullin

## **Quotable**

"The brain is a wonderful organ. It starts working the moment you get up in the morning and does not stop -- until you get into the office."

**Robert Frost (1874 - 1963)**

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**NOTE:** The Editor of this newsletter, Francis Ferguson can be reached at 407.493.0956 (Cell) or [fergapk@gmail.com](mailto:fergapk@gmail.com).