

CENTRAL FLORIDA STAMP CLUB

Editor – A. Stephen Patrick

April 1, 2001

COMMITTEE REPORT – CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Jim Estes has reported the work of the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws. The Board will vote on the changes at its next meeting, but it is expected to pass.

Although the club continues to use Central Florida Stamp Club as its name, the legal name is Mid-Florida Philatelic Society, Inc. The name change was necessary to file as a new entity with the state of Florida as a non-profit corporation.

Estes used several models from other societies including the APS to clean up archaic language and streamline the rules. Copies will be available to any member who wants one in the near future.

The original bylaws were produced about 40 years ago and last amended in 1980. One change to note is that the club will return to seven directors as shown in the bylaws.

(Editors Note) When there was a lapse for several years in maintaining official status, some of the election rules were not adhered to. I congratulate our president Carl Ulstad for following through on this dry, but important issue.

BOARD ACTIONS

Recently, the club was approached by the local coin club to buy some of our frames. John Shirley reports that we have some frames that are in need of repair and that still use the old glass. "We will negotiate the sale of some of these un-needed ones at the price we bought them," states John Shirley.

The Board also will authorize John Shirley to liquidate the club's inventory of space covers to a dealer in Brevard County.

The CFSC Has "Fair" Representation

The Central Florida Stamp Club gave away more than 1100 packets of stamp to kids during the 11-day run of the Central Florida Fair. John Shirley led a team of 23 volunteers that manned the CFSC booth. Among those taking multiple shifts were Norm Levine, Carl Ulstad, Francis Ferguson, and Harry and Paulette Najarian.

Shirley reports a net profit of \$400 from the honorarium and sale of souvenirs. The Fair attendance was the largest since 1992 although the educational exhibits are not the most attended. John says that we have been invited back, and next year there will be a reward for the best booth.

Thanks go out to Randall Priest and all those who helped make up the packets of 25-30 stamps that were given away. There were generous donations from Lewis Wiseman, Carl Ulstad, and Steve Patrick.

One man found some stamps that had been dropped on the floor by a kid. He carefully picked up all of them and returned them to our booth. John Shirley thanked him for the effort and told him that he was welcome to keep them. "Oh, good," he said, "there's an Australian stamp that I have been looking for to add to my collection." So much for the many closet collectors in the area! Perhaps we should have some adult giveaways next year.

SUNPEX TO RISE MAY 15-16

Members are reminded that the stamp bourse at the Maitland Civic Center on May 15-16 will include an exhibit by the members. The frames hold nine pages and we need your material to fill them. We encourage a variety of one frame exhibits. Prizes will be awarded. Sign up with John Shirley.

A Philatelic Incident

By Steve Patrick

For spring vacation this year, I led a small group to visit London and Amsterdam during the first 10 days of March. I told my students to keep their eyes open because I usually see at least one person I know on one of these trips.

We were sitting in the Amsterdam Airport ready for our return flight when I noticed a man that looked vaguely familiar. It took me a few minutes to rack my brain for acquaintances from church, school, etc. Then my mind turned to stamp collecting. The light switch turned on.

"Pardon me, by any chance are you a stamp collector?" "Why yes," he said. "And is your name Roger," I asked. It turned out that it was Dr. Roger Schnell from Ft. Lauderdale who was returning home from a vacation in Africa with his wife. I recognized him from his being a judge on several occasions at FLOREX.

I happened to mention that our club was busy that week giving away stamps to kids at the fair. He took my card, and last week I received an envelope of donated stamps for our kids. There were also cards soliciting my support in the APS elections in that he is one of the candidates for vice president. It truly is a small world for stamp collectors.

Nominate Your Favorite Poet

New member David Stone teaches English at Forest Lake Academy. He was reading *The Atlantic Monthly* for April and discovered a notice for National Poetry Month. The Academy of American Poets (<http://www.poets.org/>) is petitioning the USPS for a new series of stamps devoted to the nation's best loved poets.

They recognize that 22 poets have already appeared on US stamps. The organization is urging members to petition the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee to recognize the African-American poet Langston Hughes in 2002, the centenary of his birth. They note, "Stamps are one of the most visible and accessible symbols of America's democratic cultural heritage." I believe that CFSC members can agree with this.

Program Change

The next meeting will have a substitute program which will feature "Authors on Stamps." This will be a collaboration between David Stone and Steve Patrick. Stone has been using stamps and first-day covers to illustrate his literature classes. We will try to schedule Larry Stiles and his topic "Sheels on Stamps" for a later date.

NEWS NOTES

* CFSC members **Herb McNeal and Bill Johnston** are scheduled to speak at the April 26 meeting of the Greater Orlando Round Table. Herb will give a brief history of the Confederate Postal Service in the first part, and Bill will show covers from Winchester, VA, and East Tennessee. Take advantage of this if you missed these talks the first time. The GOCWR meets in the same room as our club on the 4th Thursday.

* Steve Patrick will present a paper on "John Milton and Esther Hill Hawks, Two Civil War Doctors" at the Triennial Session of the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Historians at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, on April 13. He will also show exhibits from his postal history collection of Hawks Park, FL, the town Dr. Hawks founded.

* Member Mike Rogers reports that he is having an auction April 27 over US and World Wide materials. You can call for a catalogue and view the lots at Michael Rogers, Inc. There are 4,000 entries. Mike reports that he sent a team to hold an auction at a Hong Kong show in February and that they will go to Tokyo in August for another show.

* The British Post Office recently produced stamps using thermographic ink that changes colors touched or rubbed for a few seconds. You can view the stamps at <http://www.gbstamps.com/gbcc/>, the website for the Great Britain Collectors Club.

* The USPS announced that its 2001 Commemorative Stamp Club will be \$48.95 up \$10 from last year. Commemorative Panels are up to \$6.00 and Souvenir Pages \$2.00. Call 1-800-STAMP-24 to enroll.

Contact Steve Patrick if you have items to share for the newsletter. Al Quintana says "**Pay your dues!**"