

**Notes From Board Meeting**

Your CFSC Board met on Zoom April 29 and discussed several items that should be of interest to our members. Our current membership is at 94 which means that we have only suffered a 7% net loss from last year despite the pandemic. **Mel Borofsky** has updated the membership roster, and we will have copies available when we start meeting again in person. Contact Mel by email if you need a downloadable copy before then.

**Jim Archbold** reports that we have \$7,901.72 in checking, \$7,515.38 in savings, and a CD holding at \$2,157.92 meaning that we are in good shape financially. A year without rent payments have helped the bottom line. The Maitland show had a slight profit, and we expect the same in the June show. We have about \$300 outstanding in door prize certificates that will have to be redeemed in the future. And we have missed auction income with no meetings, but the financial news is mostly good.

**New Catalogues:** The board voted to buy a 2022 set of Scott catalogues at a cost of upwards of \$800. Three volumes have been produced and the cycle will finish in October. This is an important club benefit in that members can check these out between meetings. The old catalogues will be sold by auction with all members getting a chance to bid. More information will follow on when that will take place.

**FLOREX Cachet:** **Mel Borofsky** is designing a souvenir envelope for the December show that will honor the health workers, scientists, and front line workers who have served during the 2020-21 pandemic. The cancel will probably include an image of a hypodermic needle.

**Public Meetings at the Marks Center:** The Marks Center is open from 9:00 to 5:00 for limited activity like the recreation areas, the library, and small meetings. **Robert Fisher** has filed application to have first and third Thursday afternoon meetings from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. These meetings will be closed to the public with a current limit of 24 members. When we qualify again under non-profit status, the day time meetings should be free of charge. Otherwise the rental fee is \$50 per hour, so the board felt that we should wait for non-profit status rather than pay rental for such a limited number. We are told that the application may take three weeks, so the earliest we can have an afternoon meeting is May 20. We will let you know if or when this happens.

If we have an afternoon meeting, we will still have Zoom meetings that same night with the same presentation as the daytime meeting. We will have an auction, if the details can be worked out. Members will have to RSVP to reserve a spot. This is a fluid situation as restrictions are being changed weekly. We look forward to normal evening meetings perhaps this summer.

**Other Announcements:** The West Volusia Club will have another "philatelic garage sale" this Tuesday afternoon, May 4. Members should get a postcard invitation.

Plan for a Zoom meeting May 6 from 6:45 to 8:00 p.m.

The board is entertaining the idea of a special "Jim Pullin Award" for FLOREX from the CFSC for an exhibit using stampless covers and/or significant 19<sup>th</sup> century research.

The board will hold a phone tree in May to check on the status of members and inform of any swift changes to our meeting status.

## **Five American Stamp Collecting Related Organizations Sought PPP Loans in 2020''**

**Submitted by John Robbins**

The Covid-19 pandemic has adversely affected nearly all aspects of stamp collecting, including stamp club meetings, bourses, exhibitions and shows. However, not all things philatelic suffered. Many clubs adapted to the challenges besetting them by holding multi-party, remote meetings using Zoom. Likewise, both national and international meetings were conducted virtually during the second half of 2020. The Collector's Club of New York pivoted by increasing their lecture frequency (now twice monthly) and allowing for non-club member participation. Many sources point to increased stamp sales on Ebay.

Unfortunately, at least four philatelic businesses, and one not-for-profit national philatelic society, foresaw financial challenges and applied for PPP (Paycheck Protection Program) loans during the first two months of the pandemic.

The businesses impacted include one publisher of stamp periodicals and catalogs, an auction house, and two retail stamp businesses. Amos Media Company, of Sydney, Oh., the publisher of Linn's Stamp News and Scott Catalogs, applied for a loan of between 350 thousand and 1 million dollars. Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions, LLC, of Danbury, Ct., & Kenmore Philatelics, Inc., of Milford, N.H., both requested 150-350 thousand dollars. Mystic Stamp Co., Inc., of Camden, N.Y., sought 1-2 million dollars. The American Philatelic Society, of Bellefonte, Pa., reached out for a loan of 150-350 thousand dollars.

It is not known to this writer if any of the aforementioned loans have been forgiven. In that regard, it should be noted that the Executive Director of the APS, Scott English, opined during last year's APS on-line meeting that he expected their PPP loan to be forgiven. A second round of PPP loans has also been approved by the U.S. Congress, with an application deadline of May 31, 2021.

Reference: sba.com

### **Maitland Show A Success**

"Amazingly well!," was the quote from **Francis Ferguson** about how the Maitland show went on April 3. The 14 dealers with 155 attendees met under Covid caution. The face-to-face interaction was a welcome contrast to a year without stamp meetings. The front desk was manned by **Bob Fisher, Dave Allen, Steve Strobel, Jim Cooney, and Gene Perry**.

The club received two new applications for membership and three others paid their dues. **Mike Rodgers** held a table for the first time in a while at a local show. We can look forward to the next Maitland one day show on June 12.