

# The Postscript



Tallahassee Stamp & Cover Club

Vol. 8 No. 4

October - December 1998

## *The* IVORY *Stamp Club with*



**CAPTAIN TIM**

### **Captain Tim Started Young Collectors In The Stamp Hobby**

By Don Smith

“Captain Tim” was a radio program in the 1930s sponsored by Ivory Soap which was made by Proctor and Gamble. If young kids like me sent in the correct number of box tops from “Ivory Snow” boxes they would receive a small 128-page album, including an index of countries, a packet of stamps to start them out, and some stamp hinges.

The album, stamps and hinges were provided by H. E. Harris Co. located in Boston, MA, at the time. Along with hints about stamp collecting, Captain Tim used radio time to encourage youngsters to study their stamps carefully as he did, to never give up and “to keep healthy.”

Captain Tim was in the British Intelligence Service or Secret Service during WW I. One of his main assignments was to catch enemy spies. While in London in 1916 the Censorship Department told Captain Tim they were watching very carefully those letters a particular man was sending to Holland. This man was a stamp collector and he was exchanging stamps with another collector in Amsterdam. His mail

See **Captain Tim** on Page 2

In The **POSTROAD** Ahead

\* 1999 \*

**Jan. 12** - Confederate Stamps  
By Gregg Phifer

**Feb. 9** - Sales & Work Night  
Bring Your Stamps!

**Mar. 9** - To Be Announced  
Volunteer Needed

## Officer Nominees Are Announced

Club Officers for 1999 were nominated in November and elections will be held at the December meeting. The floor will be open for further nominees in December.

Nominated thus far are: **Ed Walters**, President; **Ken Miller**, Vice President; **Gwynn Kidd**; Secretary, **Lyn McCauley**, Treasurer and **Larry Benson**, Editor.

## Sign Up for Club Tour in 1999 to APS

If you are interested in going on the Club Tour to American Philatelic Society (APS) Headquarters in State College, PA, you need to contact Lyn McCauley and let him know. His number is 386-3624. We must have 32 travelers to make the trip possible, so tell Lyn now if you plan to go!

## Welcome New Members

We welcome new members **Gerry York #135** and **John Bayides #136** who joined during the October meeting. Welcome, collectors!

## Captain Tim From Page 1

was being very thoroughly watched because the letters were addressed to a location in Amsterdam where spies sometimes received their mail.

Being a stamp collector himself, Captain Tim was naturally interested and he asked to see the stamps the man was sending. For weeks Tim studied those stamps and letters but he could find nothing extraordinary or suspicious about them. One day Captain Tim got the idea that maybe the stamps themselves were codes! And sure enough, every stamp had a hidden meaning.

The stamps the spy had sent to Holland divulged secret information about the British Navy and Army. When he sent a 2-shilling stamp to his friend in Amsterdam it meant a battleship had just left England. A one-shilling stamp meant a cruiser. A 5-penny stamp signified a destroyer and so on. When Captain Tim figured out the code, he caught his man!

Along with pages for mounting some 4,000 stamps, the little album contained chapters entitled *Adventuring With Postage Stamps*, *How to Start a Stamp Collection*, *How to Organize a Stamp Club*, and a *Gallery of Famous Collectors* such as Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Herbert Hoover and King George V.

### Club Officers

President - Ed Walters 385-8379  
Vice President - Jules Gall 912-243-0650  
Secretary - Gwynn P. Kidd 627-7776  
Treasurer - Lyn McCauley 386-3624  
Editor - Larry Benson 877-7001

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Articles may be reprinted with credit.

## TS&CC Holds Third Annual "CLOTHESPEX"

By Ken Miller

TS&CC held its third annual "CLOTHESPEX" exhibit at the September meeting. It was a rousing success with 29 entries showing a wide variety of collections and philatelic material.

The exhibit introduces Club members to other collecting interests and teaches them how to put an exhibit together. The club also took the opportunity to make color photocopies of the exhibits to accompany our promotional activities during local public affairs displays.

See **CLOTHESPEX** on Page 3

### LAST CALL!

U.S. SOUVENIR BOOKS WITH  
STAMPS AT 50% BELOW  
USPS RETAIL PRICE

	List	Sale
1982 Defin, Stationery #830	7.50	4.00
1983 Defin, Stationery #834	6.25	3.00
1983 Comems Includes 2031-5 & C101-12 #883	12.50	6.25
1984 Defin, Stationery #833	4.00	2.00
1984 Comem w/Olym #884	10.25	5.00
1985 Comems #865	8.00	4.00
1987 Commems #867	12.95	6.50
1986 Commems #866	9..50	4.50
1987-88 Defin, Official, Transport #837	13.95	7.00
1988 Commems #868	14.50	7.00
1990 Commems #8809	16.50	8.00
1991 WW II Book w/Duplicate Stamps #8842	15.95	7.50
1992 WW II Book w/Duplicate Stamps #8920	15.95	7.50
1986 Souv. Packet with USA 2198-2201; FDC AMERIPEX 86 - Sweeten 1585-88 FDC AMERIPEX 86 - UN 473-4, Vienna 62-3, Geneva 146-7 - All for just \$3.00		

\* All packs have USPS collector's books w/mounts. Call **Don Plaskett at 385-5296**

# The American Philatelic Society - What's In It For You?

By Janet Klug, Secretary  
American Philatelic Society



Your editor, Larry Benson, asked me to write about the American Philatelic Society and what keeps me in the APS year after year and why YOU should join, too.

It is a good question, and one whose answer I hadn't vocalized in quite awhile. There are obvious answers that are touted in the membership brochures, but these give only an overview of what is available. The reason why I have been a member for 20 continuous years is because membership not only saves me money, but it makes me money, too. Being a naturally thrifty person, this is overwhelmingly compelling.

## How Can APS Save Money?

So how does this work? How can membership **save** you money? How can it **make** you money?

Have you bought a philatelic book lately? A specialized catalog or a handbook on a specific aspect of postal history can easily cost \$50 or more to buy, but my APS membership gives me carte blanche to the very impressive collection of books, catalogs and periodicals housed in the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL.)

All I need do is call, write or e-mail one of the helpful members of the APRL staff telling them what books I want to borrow. A few days later they are delivered to my door. I pay a small borrowing fee and postage. It costs me about \$5 or \$6 to borrow a book that would have cost me \$50 to buy. In one single transaction I have saved enough money to pay for my dues and a nice cover or two!

And, that's just the tip of the iceberg. Not only have I bought interesting stamps for my collection at favorable prices through services of the APS Sales Division, but I have also **sold** surplus material. It's easy and fun making up the booklets of stamps to consign items to be sold. About a year later you receive a check for the material that sold and return of whatever did not sell. So, you see, you **make** money!

## Magazine Makes Me Money

A more subtle way the APS makes money for me is due to the colorful monthly magazine *American Philatelist*. Suppose there is an article about an obscure pen cancel on a particular stamp that is often mistaken for a much less desirable revenue cancel. A few months later I see that very stamp priced as a revenue at a stamp show. The knowledge gained from reading that article allows me to spot a bargain I may have otherwise bypassed.

These are all good sound financial reasons to be an APS member, but there is one even more compelling reason to belong that has nothing to do with money. Being an APS member has brought me into contact with people I never would have had the opportunity to meet (such as my ol' buddy Larry Benson.) Seeing old friends and making new ones at the annual APS conventions called STAMPSHOW (held in August) or the new Winter Show (in February) is a benefit for which no price can be placed.

I hope to see **you** in February when the APS brings its Winter Show "AMERICAS 99" to Orlando, Florida, February 25-28. Meanwhile, Happy collecting!

## CLOTHESPEX From Page 2

A special thanks goes to Rick Allen of Durra-Quick Print for making the copies for us.

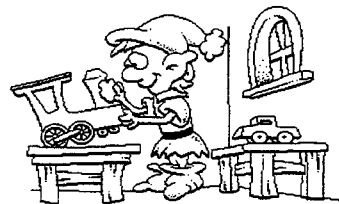
CLOTHESPEX was started to introduce collectors to the joys of exhibiting for fun. Every effort is made to avoid tension, pressure or serious competition. However, over the three years the displays have been held, the quality of the exhibits has improved dramatically.

Each one page entry is hung by a clothespin on a clothesline strung around the room and they are numbered. Members then vote on their three most favorite exhibits in descending order.

## CLOTHESPEX III Winners

At the September display, **Louis Gagnon** won first place with his display of Rural America. **Ken Miller** won second with an exhibit showing a Stamp/ Currency/Coin combination. **Bruce McDonald** came in third with a display of Belize Butterflies.

Each winner received a prize of ribbons and a small packet of philatelic items/supplies. The prizes were donated by **Pat McDonald**, the "Jack Robertson Collection (about which you'll learn more later) and the Club.



**Merry Christmas !**

# Some Presidential Thoughts

By Ed Walters



Thanks to each of you for helping throughout the year. It appears we have made some progress. For example:

☒ We had a first with our Youth Night activity and we have made a lot of contacts this year.

☒ We have signed up several new members during 1998 and membership is at an all time high.

☒ Our officers have been outstanding. A special thanks goes to each of them and most especially to Jules Gall for his excellent work as Vice-president though he has been at a disadvantage living such a distance from Tallahassee.

## John Robertson Collection

☒ The John Robertson collection gift affords us a great opportunity to make more contacts, especially among youth in our area. Let's all get busy making up those packets to give to youngsters. There are lots of stamps (maybe even albums) I'm sure Club members can use and at 25 per cent of catalog the price is right! So find some stamps you can use. We'll have lots of this material available at our meetings.

☒ I believe any organization needs new visions, new activities, new members to keep its vitality going. If it doesn't grow, then it will wither on the vine. I believe the

same is true with stamp collectors. Some of areas in which we can grow include new ways to collect, different ways to show our collections and making new friends with the same collecting interests.

☒ Our Club is a wonderful resource to help us in our collecting endeavors. Make a point at each meeting to get acquainted with someone new. Old friends are truly treasures, but new ones are jewels in the making.

☒ My prayer is that the holidays will be joyous for each and every one of you and May God Bless you one and all! See you at the next meeting.

**THE POSTSCRIPT**  
1832 Jean Avenue  
Tallahassee, FL 32308-5227

### Holiday Party

We will be celebrating the Holidays with our Annual

### Christmas Party

*Tuesday, December 8*

At our regular Club Meeting.  
The TS&CC will provide food  
but members may bring deserts.

**Bring a Gift Worth  
About \$5 to Exchange**

**Come & Join In The FUN!**



**FIRST CLASS  
MAIL**

Edwin Walters  
313 Sweetbriar Dr.  
Tallahassee, FL 32312