



Philatelic Bulletin

A monthly publication of the Sarasota Philatelic Club

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July 2010

Sarasota Philatelic Club



Minutes of the Sarasota Philatelic Club for July 6th 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Charlie Gore at 7 pm. The minutes of June meeting were approved as written in the Bulletin.

Members present : 18 Visitors : none

Treasures report : we are solvent, in good shape.

Jim Leas, former Treasurer and long time member of our club had a stroke in April — he is presently in Heritage Place in Bradenton. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Long time member Ken King passed away in April. Our condolences to his family.

Don Standcomb needs more new circuit books. Asks that members go through their inventory and make some books.

After the article in last months Bulletin, the members present unanimously agreed that the USPS should have issued a stamp commemorating the 125 th Anniversary of the Statue of Liberty.

There was a discussion about the disposal of a stamp collection.

The business meeting closed at 7:30 pm.

The program was “Secret Marks on PR China Stamps” presented by Ron Brown.

Meeting closed 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Peter Street

Secretary

Meetings

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday August 3rd, 2010 at 7 pm at the Universalist Church of Sarasota, located at 3975 Fruitville Road, just east of Beneva Road.

For more information call President Charlie Gore at 941—497—4479

Program

Program Chairman Les Knebl has prepared the following program for next month :

“Collecting Foreign Stamps” by Larry Brown, and “Arthur Conan Doyle” by Peter Street

Should be a good one.

See ya dare !

2010

Officers & Directors

President – Charlie Gore

VP Operations – Sy Bricker

VP Programs – Les Knebl

Treasurer – Jack Seaman

Record Secretary – Peter

Street

Corres. Secretary – Iris

Hinden

Editor – Jack Seaman

Directors – Al Light

Les Knebl

Dave Smith

Show Time !

Things are moving along on schedule.

I have received entry forms and checks for thirty frames of exhibits.

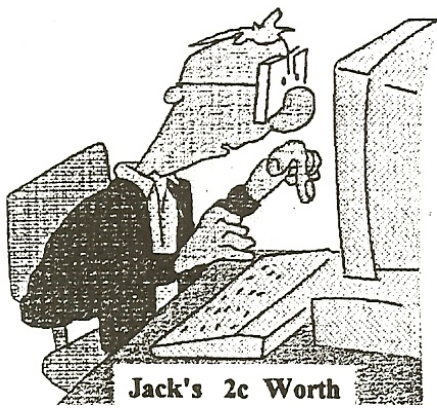
Sy reports that he has received signed contracts and checks from seven dealers.

The Judges panel has been submitted to and approved by APS.

The Auditorium and the Bay Front Center contracts have been completed and proper deposits have been made,

Donna reports that all is on track with the Post Office in setting aside various stamp issues for sale at the show.

The committee has taken July off. Have a nice summer.



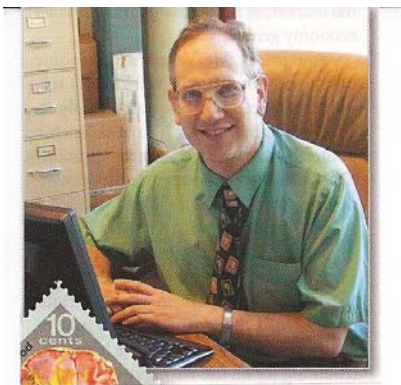
Congratulation — Ken Martin

A little over a year ago, in April of 2009, Ken was appointed as the “Interim Executive Director” of the American Philatelic Society. On tax day, April 15th 2010, the APS Board of Directors removed the “Interim” and made him the Executive Director.

Ken is one of us. He is a long time member of our club and lived in Venice before moving to Bellefonte, Pennsylvania to work for the APS.

Ken has worked for many years helping to produce our annual Show in February . In fact when he is in town, he still helps with the frame setup and anything else we ask him to do.

He is a wonderful, hard working and dedicated young man, and APS is lucky to have him at the helm. As APS President Wade Saadi put it; “Ken brings his heart and soul to the job every day.”



I, and all the members of our club, wish Ken the very best in his NEW position.

You might be a “Redneck” if you have a mail box like this one in your front yard.



You make the call !

The US Postal Service— A Public or Private Corporation ?

Some years ago the US Congress reorganized the post office to operate as a independent corporation and to make its own decisions like a private corporation in order to make a profit without the US taxpayer subsidizing the operation. Many changes took place with the postmaster no longer being a part of the Presidential cabinet. At one time the post office employed over 500,000 people, but with modernization of equipment, there are less than 270,000 employees today. Nonetheless, the postal service continues to run into financial problems today.

To meet pay raises agreed to in contracts with the postal unions, it is necessary to find new sources of revenue. We have been experiencing rate increases for the past three decades to help the postal service meet its obligations in these contracts.

The postal employees are entitled to a livable wage, or the system will collapse. Since by law, work over 40 hours a week is overtime, the PMG has proposed to eliminate Saturday service. This will reduce the amount paid out for annual salaries. The United States is one of the last countries to offer Saturday deliveries.

But there is another major expense incurred by the postal service—fuel consumption by the many thousands of vehicles they use, Fuel consumption could be reduced if we eliminated collection boxes, and made everyone bring their letters to the post office. There are probably a number of countries that do this.

Why do many post offices have very high ceilings which require more energy to cool and heat ? Redesign of postal facilities to be energy efficient is a necessity already. Solar power can help.

It is unlikely that mail volumes will increase with the spread of computerization, in the foreseeable future. Hence, the postal service must prepare itself for the future, instead of trying to maintain the status quo !.

Mark Isaacs

“You Make the Call !” is a new feature that I would like to include in each issue of the Bulletin. What I need is for one member to fill this space every month. Write your opinion on some topic of interest. Tell a story of some part or special item in your collection. An interesting note on how you obtained an item in your collection. The ideas and subjects are limitless.

In other words, lets get everyone involved. This could be fun. This is your Bulletin. Lets hear what you have to say. It’s your space. Who is making the “Call” next month ?

Thanks Mark for being the first.