



October 2023

MARCH PARTY 2024

Commemorative souvenir sheet returns

A long-lost tradition will return to the March Party in 2024

A commemorative cinderella souvenir sheet marking the 134th annual March Party will be for sale during the show.

GP member Ken Silver has resurrected the idea and designed the sheet, which features the recently redesigned club logo.

The sheet features four labels with the logo printed in color. The sheet selvage includes the words "Garfield-Perry Stamp Club at the top and "134th Annual Party" and "1890-2024" at the bottom.



The left selvage highlights the show dates of "March 15-17, 2024" while the right selvage includes the "Strongsville, Ohio" location.

Measuring about 4.5 inches by 5.5 inches in size, the sheets are perforated and gummed.

The cost will be \$4.

Silver advised that there will be a limited run of 250 sheets. All proceeds from sales will benefit the club.

Plans are in progress to again make the release of a souvenir sheet an annual event at the March Party, Silver said.

QR code links to club website

You may have noticed the funny looking box in the Perryscope masthead at the top of the page. It's a QR (quick-response) code that takes people directly to the club website: www.garfieldperry.org. Such a two-dimensional matrix barcode can be read by a camera or other imaging device to open a webpage. Thanks to GP member Chris Duston for helping the club take advantage of technology.

Prospectus available to download

The prospectus for March Party 2024 is available on the club website, www.garfieldperry.org.

GP member Greg Shoults is again coordinating entries.

He advises completing an application as early as possible because the show tends to oversubscribe.

The show will host 170 frames of exhibits including 10 one-frame exhibits.

The March Party on March 15-17 is an APS World Series of Philately show. The multi-frame and single-frame grand award winners qualify for the APS Champion of

Champions competition to be held at the Great American Stamp Show 2024, scheduled for Aug. 15-18 in Hartford, Connecticut, and Chicagopex, set for Nov. 22-24 in the Windy City, respectively.

The March Party accepts all classes of exhibits, and exhibitors are invited to a complimentary luncheon in addition to other show events and the show's hospitality suite. The award dinner is set for Saturday evening.

Shoults is available via email at coilcollector@hotmail.com for questions.

From the president

Turnout was great at our September meeting after resuming in-person gatherings for the 2023-2024 season. I hope you are preparing an exhibit for the upcoming March Party. Let's all do our part to maintain the three-day event as the premier annual stamp show.

Our members collect many topics and specialties. Please bring an item to each meeting to show off your collecting inter-



ests. Variety is important, not the value of each item. We all want to learn about areas we do not personally collect.

Although Halloween is more than a month away, it is time to start planning our annual holiday dinner. We hope each of you can attend. The camaraderie is strong and enjoyable. Please plan to bring your spouse, significant other or friend.

The dinner will be at 6 p.m., Dec. 4 at Casa D'Angelo Italian Ristorante, 893 East Aurora Rd., Macedonia. The buffet-style dinner will include chicken marsala, chicken parmesan, penne pasta with meat sauce, green beans,

D'Angelo salad, bread and butter, dessert and wine.

The cost is \$42 per person. We must confirm reservations early, so please mail your check ASAP, payable to Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, c/o Ken Nilsestuen, 1000 Kingswood Dr., Akron, Ohio 44313-5921.

While you're at it, please include payment for 2024 dues, which remain \$15 for active members and \$10 for associates, with an additional \$10 for a mailed newsletter, if desired. Please be sure we have your email address.

Philatelically Yours,
– *Howard S. Chapman*

Institute for Analytical Philately symposium on tap

The Institute for Analytical Philately will convene its fifth symposium online on Oct. 10 and Oct. 17.

Originally planned as an in-person event, IAP leaders decided to follow the format of its 2020 symposium and have all speakers deliver their papers online, allowing for more participants.

GP member Bill Ullom will be among those delivering papers. His presentation, "Solving the Dilemma of Expertizing Postal Markings on Off-Cover Adhesives," will focus on traditional expertizing using



comparative visual analysis against the results independently obtained via forensic analysis.

Ullom's presentation is set for 2:15 p.m., Oct. 17.

Five speakers will deliver papers each day, beginning at 10 a.m. Most presentations will address aspects of color in philately.

Topics will include the use of

Raman microspectrometry, color analyses of stamps, video spectral comparator analyses and more.

The papers have been published and are available to institute members and attendees. The cost is \$20 to U.S. addresses, \$30 to foreign addresses, payable through PayPal or by check. Checks payable to Institute for Analytical Philately and mailed to Bruce Marsden, IAP Treasurer, 6685 Cuttaloosa Rd., New Hope, Pennsylvania, 18938.

Registration is free online at www.analyticalphilately.org.

An idea for saving stamps for beginners

It's not too early to start saving stamps and covers for the Beginners' Room at the March Party.

GP member Myron Palay suggests that members can help the cause by keeping a box or small container next to their stamp desk and place items in it. Come March, the materials can be brought to the show site, the Best Western Plus Hotel in Strongsville.

Palay said he uses an unsealed priority mail box from the post office for his donations.

"I still get a lot of mail with stamps and it's a good place to accumulate without being in the way," he said.

New material will be appreciated by GP members Bob Weygandt and Mike Kohut when they coordinate room set up.



Myron Palay's material for the March Party Beginners' Room sits in a cozy corner by his stamp desk.

So you've inherited a small collection. Now what?

Note: This is the first of two articles reviewing options when inheriting a stamp collection.

By Chris Duston

Welcome to the world of stamp collecting! This article attempts to help those who have inherited or acquired a collection of one to 10 stamp albums and perhaps a small box or two of stamps.

Perhaps you have the H.E. Harris Traditional or Statesman album or a Scott Minuteman, International, or National album. These are among the most popular starting albums used by early collectors in the 1940s through 1980s. Maybe you have a shoe box of stamps torn from the corner of letters; postcards depicting trains, planes or automobiles; or glassine envelopes with sheets of unused stamps. This article will help, but unfortunately, will likely dash dreams of finding gold between the sheets.

Often these beginning collections started with stamps acquired in grade school, while overseas during the war, or by sending a quarter in response to a magazine ad in exchange for receiving 100 used worldwide stamps. Stamp collecting was very popular in the 20th century at all levels of society, and you are not alone in being gifted an album. The American Philatelic Society has produced a brief video — <https://stamps.org/services/inherited-a-collection> — that provides good advice, but if you prefer reading to watching, please continue.

First, protect

Before we get started, think about protecting your assets. Keep them in a secure location that is cool and safe from flooding, bro-



ken water pipes, animals, insects and children. A hard side suitcase or plastic tote can often serve this purpose. Adding a box of baking soda Fridge-n-Freezer Odor Absorber or placing 8 ounces of baking soda wrapped in newsprint will help absorb moisture and odors. Store your albums upright because the pressure from stacked albums can cause the stamps to stick to the pages.

What do I have?

Let's figure out what you have. If the pages have mostly used stamps, recent stamps, and the positions are about half filled, then you have a simple beginner's collection, just like many others.

If you have a mix of new and used stamps, complete stamp series and many filled pages, then the album is more advanced but still a very common find. More complete albums or those that focus upon stamps from the 1800s, one country, stamps about one subject, one type of postcard, etc., might be worth more. Some items purchased for investment may be

valuable, but if many people bought the same item for investment, there could be a surplus in the market.

Look through the collection for an insurance policy, inventory list, purchase receipts and markings that identify more valuable items. If you really want to learn about your stamps, a good place to start is by borrowing a the Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalog for the country of interest from your local library. With these books,

you can identify many of the stamps. You can also use the Stamp Identifier app or a Google image search to identify most postage stamps.

If the letter and stamp are from the 1900s through today, then they likely have little value. If the sheets of new stamps have denominations (not Forever stamps) they will sell for about 15% to 20% of face value, less if stuck together or if the gum has been soaked off; but they are still valid for postage at full face value so use them!

Collections from subscription services are often worth little because of the number of customers who saved the items.

Christmas or Easter Seals, Boys Town labels and other similar items that look like stamps but aren't are called cinderellas and are a special category. So are stamps for the collection of revenue (tax) stamps. Still, the same guidance generally applies and only the oldest are usually worth something. It is possible to find an error stamp that is worth much more, but such finds are few and far between.

Upcoming shows

October 6-8: INDYPEX '23, Indiana Stamp Club, Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds & Exhibition Center, 2003 Pleasant St., Noblesville, Indiana

October 13-14: MOTOPEX '23, Motor City Stamp and Cover Club, Sokol Cultural Center, 23600 W. Warren Rd., Dearborn Heights, Michigan

October 28-29: CUY-LORPEX 2023, Cuy-Lor Stamp Club, Memorial Hall, 20116 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River, Ohio

November 4: WOOPEX 2023, Wooster Stamp Club, Ida Sue School, 266 Oldman Rd., Wooster, Ohio

November 18: Black River Stamp Club 39th Show, St. Jude School, 590 Poplar St., Elyria, Ohio

GP programs

The club meets the first Thursday of the month except July and August. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. at Doubletree Hotel, 6200 Quarry Lane, Independence; (216-447-1300).

Club members are invited to meet for dinner at 6 p.m. at the hotel restaurant.

Upcoming programs include:

October 5: Kent Johnson, "Early U.S. Local Delivery."

November 2: Ray Beer, "The 1988 25c Flag Over Yosemite Coil -- A Short Story."

December 7: Stephen Grundfast, "Four Heroes, One Stamp."



Club Officers

Howard Chapman, president

Ray Beer, vice president

Clint Many, secretary

Ken Nilsestuen, treasurer

Rocco Caponi, Carol Thatcher, trustees

Matt Liebson, legal adviser

Perryscope is published by the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club.

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Send news and information to
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The club is online at garfieldperry.org
and on Facebook.

Stamp collecting opens the mind to the world

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